

HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH  
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF  
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY  
1993



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THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN AMERICA  
WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60189-0270

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THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY  
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR  
MADRAS 600 020, INDIA



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# Presidential Address

To the 118th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society  
Adyar, 26 December 1993

Every International Convention of the Theosophical Society is a proof that the nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of humanity, without distinctions of any kind whatsoever, is a reality. Once again we meet in this 118th Annual Convention in deep friendship, with common aspirations, however different be the background of the life of each one of us. Differences of race and nation, intellect and culture, sex and status, fade into the background as the consciousness of the delegate mingles with that of others in a spirit of affection and understanding, and in a common quest for the wisdom needed to ensure true progress for humanity. Because the internal barriers dissolve on these great occasions the atmosphere becomes uplifting, and at times we feel a blessed power from above is showered down upon the gathering. Let us begin our proceedings by making pure our hearts and thus fit to invoke the aid of our Elder Brethren:

**May Those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their help and guidance this Society founded to be a channel for Their work. May They inspire it with Their wisdom, strengthen it with Their power and energize it with Their activity.**

The years and decades pass in steady succession without mankind emerging out of the strife and unwisdom in which it has been immersed. Dr Annie Besant's illuminating picture of humanity's evolutionary progress (found in her book *In the Outer Court*) describes the view that presents itself to someone far above the vast mass of humanity. The multitudes he sees are climbing a great mountain, but so slowly that the progress is scarcely perceptible. 'For every step forward, there is a step backward', and the people trudge round and round for millions of years in endless succession of lives, hardly

advancing forward or higher. It may make weary the observer to watch this vast mass of people, toiling with no result. Then the question arises why they climb so slowly. She answers, 'Because they see not their goal, and understand not the direction in which they are travelling.' Therefore, they wander in the bypaths, foolishly chasing everything which looks alluring. Even persons who have progressed intellectually do not proceed faster, for they too have no idea of where they should go. Only a few catch a glimpse of a light on the summit, which shines from a Holy of holies. When the goal is glimpsed, there

is no more meandering, but a steady march forward. The strong ones begin to climb straight up instead of taking the long spiral path that winds around the mountainside. The direction is crucial for progress and that is what Theosophy provides. And on the Theosophical Society is cast the duty of helping people to realize which way they must go. Annie Besant aphoristically describes those who know the right direction as those who realize that 'Life is meant for service and not for self-seeking'.

HPB pointed out in *The Key to Theosophy* that the Universal Brotherhood of humanity appears to many to be an utopian aim, because selfishness has come to be regarded as the natural condition of the human being. She says: 'This selfishness, instead of being eradicated, is daily strengthened and stimulated into a ferocious and irresistible feeling by the present religious education, which stands not only to encourage, but positively to justify it.' To counteract this, she pointed out, it is necessary to demonstrate on logical, philosophical, metaphysical and even scientific grounds that all people have the same origin, which is the fundamental teaching of Theosophy. To achieve real progress one lesson must be learnt, which is that nothing can affect one nation or one man without affecting all other nations and all other men.

At its commencement, the Theosophical Society had three sections, and three degrees in each section. All candidates for active fellowship were required to enter as probationers in the third degree of the

third section, and no fixed time was specified in which the new Fellow could advance from any lower to a higher degree; all depended upon merit. To be admitted into the highest degree of the first section, the Theosophist must have become freed of every leaning towards any one form of religion in preference to another. He was to be free from all exacting obligations to society, politics and family, ready to lay down his life, if necessary, for the good of humanity, and of a brother fellow of whatever race, colour or ostensible creed. He had to renounce wine, and every other description of intoxicating beverage, and adopt a life of strict chastity. Those who had not yet wholly disenthralled themselves from religious prejudice, and other forms of selfishness, but had made a certain progress towards self-mastery and enlightenment, belonged to the second section. This information can be found in *The Golden Book of the Theosophical Society*.

Although this gradation ceased to exist very soon, there is a natural level in which each member puts himself even now. One level consists of members of the Theosophical Society who join because they accept in theory or vaguely feel that humanity must find the way to brotherhood and peace, which can be achieved only by abolishing prejudices, sectarian attitudes, and divisive notions of every kind, including nationalism. The next level includes those who are clearer in mind and realize that Universal Brotherhood must be practised and no one is qualified to teach brotherhood who does not himself live it. According

to HPB, 'The few real Theosophists in the TS are among those members.' The practical Theosophist, who is the real Theosophist, is one who is prepared to renounce all personal ambitions and interests and live a life of service and altruism. He must be earnestly working to purify himself, observing the contradictions between his aims and ideals, his thoughts and reactions, without undertaking which his mind cannot be clean. 'A true Theosophist must put in practice the loftiest moral ideal, must strive to realize his unity with the whole of humanity and work ceaselessly for others,' as categorically stated by Madame Blavatsky.

The most spiritual level of members is composed of those who are not only earnestly striving to live a life such as has been mentioned, but who have actually begun to transcend the mental and psychological limitations which block progress. They realize in some measure within their hearts that the Self is one, and are therefore possessed of a compassion and wisdom that makes itself felt in daily relationships.

In order to be a powerful force, aiding humanity to accelerate its journey to the mountain top, the Theosophical Society must be largely composed of people who are convinced that the achievements so prized in the world, including the intellectual and the aesthetic, are not sufficient for human beings to press forward to their lofty goal. They must realize that the progress and perfection which the secret science depicts is inward progress towards a liberated state of unselfishness. The profane concept of

progress does not make for a clear sense of direction. On the other hand it deludes the mind into imagining that it is moving ahead when it is actually directionless or marking time. Therefore, the members of the Society must be clearly aware of the nature of progress, at least in conceptual terms. They should be able to point out the direction, even as a person who has not begun to climb to the top of Everest may say, that this is the ascent the mountaineer must make in order to experience the purity and vastness of the open sky.

But the Society's usefulness is greatly increased when a large proportion of its members are not satisfied with just being members, but pledge themselves to become thorough altruists. As HPB said they must not think of themselves, but forget their own vanity and pride in the thought of the good of their fellow creatures. They must be, not the 'drones' of Theosophy, but working members. Their daily life must be one of self-denial in the literal sense of the term, which means that day by day they must labour to put aside thoughts and feelings pertaining to the separative self.

So far, we have had but a small proportion of members in the Society who have been real working Theosophists in this sense. As HPB warned: 'The power of mental inertia is great in anything that does not promise immediate benefit and reward.' Even after joining our Society, most members do not find any attraction in making the sacrifices without which the spiritual nature can never blossom

out. This is because the preliminary work is not done to obtain the right sense of direction even conceptually.

We live in an age where there are strong prejudices against discipline, self-restraint and sacrifice of personal pleasures and aims. Theosophical teaching cannot be popular because it says uncompromisingly that the personality must be subordinated for achieving moral and spiritual progress. This involves uncommon courage and a strong will. The falling membership in certain areas, and the lack of power in the Society's work are connected, as I see it, with the reluctance of its members to undertake the discipline necessary for spiritual transformation. There is of course no shortage today of charlatans who promise spiritual rewards to those who sacrifice nothing and who have the money to pay for promises. In the absence of theosophical study and grasp of fundamental principles, particularly relating to progress on the path of perfection, many are seduced by the seemingly easy paths which lead nowhere, and the promises which will never be fulfilled.

Leading the spiritual life, or to use the old terminology, treading the path of discipleship, should be central to the theosophical work, even though there is no binding of members to it, because the function of the Theosophical Society is to lead as many as possible towards the summit. This does not mean that there should be much talk of imaginary masters—that is the hallmark of pseudo-schools—or that there should be a revival of claims to privileged

places near the great teachers. He who does not purify his nature and discipline his personality can never know the reality of the Masters and Teachers. To enter their world, the seeker must quit the mundane orbit of self-interest. Both Teacher and God are accessible only to selfless, pure souls, as HPB points out in *Isis Unveiled* (II.635):

The world needs no sectarian church, whether of Buddha, Jesus, Mahomet, Swedenborg, Calvin, or any other. There being but one Truth, man requires but one church—the Temple of God within us, walled in by matter but penetrable by anyone who can find the way; *the pure in heart see God.*

Certain important points about the spiritual life and human progress in general must be kept in mind when propounding the theosophical view of the subject.

- \* Life is one indivisible whole. Diversity belongs to the material world of forms, the outer nature of things. The inner core of existence is the Unity, the one Being, whatever one wishes to call it.
- \* Progress for the human being is a growing realization of the truth of unity, which expresses itself in causeless compassion, without choice. Consciousness is under the veil of illusion when the material sheaths which are vehicles of consciousness are seen as *the* reality, and therefore action is based on separateness and self-interest.
- \* Spiritual progress cannot be divorced from conduct in daily relationship, because awakening to the unbreakable nature of life

cannot but express itself in compassion, service and the qualities which Dr Besant described as being 'on the side of love'. Morality is non-egoistic action and is a reflection of true perception.

- \* The conditioned mind, heavily influenced by the past, by heredity, karmically acquired habits and so forth, and also by the tendencies inherent in the material of its vestures, takes separateness for reality. Spiritual advancement involves learning to uncondition and purify the mind and thus discovering the deeper level of consciousness, where there is an abiding awareness of truth, unconditioned, uninfluenced, and undisturbed.
- \* Mastery over the urges imposed by the material vestures and the many forces at play around one is essential for discovering the nature of true being. Restraint and order are an unavoidable part of the discipline integral to the spiritual journey.
- \* Such order cannot be brought about by someone else. Every person who wishes to tread the path must undertake, with devotion, patience and perseverance, the laborious but joyous work of preparation and purification.
- \* There is no arbitrariness in life, as the universes are governed by law. Therefore there are no favours to be gained or rewards to be obtained. When necessary conditions are fulfilled the corresponding results ensue. When there is sufficient

preparation and control of the baser mechanical instincts, the further step is taken and the good which belongs to the higher stage comes by itself.

- \* The Masters, Sages and Holy Ones are people who have already done the work, and are completely in command at all times, never at the mercy of circumstances and contingencies. Therefore they are described as stable in mind, always at peace, resplendent with the light of the spirit. They exemplify what every human being can be, but they cannot cancel the laws of the universe and promote those who do not make themselves worthy.
- \* The culmination of the human journey is perfection of wisdom, love, peace and bliss. It is freedom from the compulsive round of births and deaths which is the lot of those who thirst for experience.

These are some of the aspects of the theosophical view of the path. A clear presentation of the life to be led for really advancing forward and upward, guided by the wonderful literature we have, should inspire many serious-minded people.

It is not enough to have in the Society only men and women who are on the whole good and well intentioned. As we mentioned earlier, there is need for another level of members who are working at the conquest of self and are therefore capable of living the brotherhood which we try to teach.

\* \* \*

A major event of the year was the World Congress held in Brasilia, capital of Brazil, from 24 to 31 July. The proceedings were in three languages, English, Spanish and Portuguese. Over 500 delegates, mainly from different parts of Latin America, and also representatives of other Sections, attended; there were of course many members from Brazil; big delegations came from Argentina and Mexico; but it was good to have also groups from other active areas, and representatives from Guatemala, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and other places where theosophical work has been at a low ebb because of disturbed conditions. As a number of General Secretaries and members of the General Council were present, there was an opportunity to have a Consultative Meeting of the Council on the eve of the Congress, during which useful discussions took place about strengthening the work and other important matters. The programme of the Congress included a number of lectures on its theme, 'Towards a Wise Mind and a Noble Society', as well as other items, including meetings of the Theosophical Order of Service and other allied bodies. A report has been published in *The Theosophist* giving more details. We are thankful to the Brazilian members for the hard work they did and for making the stay of the delegates so comfortable and happy.

Another internationally important event was the second Parliament of the World's Religions held in Chicago, which was co-sponsored by the Theosophical Society in America and more than 180 other organizations.

This gathering of over 6,000 people made it possible to hear lectures on, and foster interchanges between, a wide variety of religions and sects. A series of theosophical programmes organized by Adyar, Pasadena and the U.L.T. were very well attended. This included lectures by myself, Miss Joy Mills. Dr John Algeo, Mrs Grace F. Knoche from Pasadena and other well-known speakers from the American Section. Mr Anthony Lysy, of the Department of Education of the Theosophical Society in America, was the co-ordinator, who also organized a Youth Programme, which was much appreciated. His Holiness the Dalai Lama delivered the concluding address in Grant Park and participated in an 'Assembly of Religious and Spiritual Leaders' which met in order to work out common principles for a Global Ethic.

Immediately prior to this Parliament, the American Section held its Annual Meeting, during which there were three workshops on Human Regeneration and the Objects of the Theosophical Society, initiated with talks by me. Dr. John Algeo, who had taken over as National President a little earlier, outlined his plans for the Section. He proposes to expand educational work and establish an Olcott Institute which will provide 'structured and comprehensive theosophical education', embracing study, meditation and service, with a curriculum that will cover the essentials of Theosophy on the introductory and advanced levels as well as studies from a theosophical perspective of topics of current

interest. The plan also includes helping local groups to help themselves by developing their own resources and abilities. He proposes to explore new kinds of group activities, in addition to the traditional ones, using modern techniques for intercommunication. The project further envisages initiating work with and for children, involving members at large (of which there are many in the US) more closely in the Section's activities, making the Theosophical Order of Service stronger, fostering expression of Theosophy through the arts, and making the Society more widely known. It is to be hoped that beginning with such a comprehensive vision of future work the Section will move onwards from strength to strength and make up for the fall in membership which has afflicted it in the past few years.

Dr Algeo mentions in his report that their magazine *The Quest* is distributed to more than 25,000 readers. Efforts are being made to improve the marketing of Quest Books. The Olcott Library is being updated under the direction of Mrs Elizabeth Trumpler, a professional librarian-member.

Membership in Canada has risen. Their new quarterly magazine *The Light Bearer* is very useful as a link in this vast country. Miss Ianthe Hoskins' tour was a welcome event.

In India, the year was highlighted by nationwide celebrations of the centenary of Annie Besant's arrival in the country on 16 November 1893. Many of the Lodges organized special lectures for members as well as the

public. Wide coverage in the leading newspapers of India and magazines with large circulations brought to the attention of the public the extraordinary work done by Dr Besant for the regeneration of India, for India's political freedom and the welfare of the world in general. The Theosophical Society, its aims and work were also naturally publicized through the information media in this context. The national television and All India Radio broadcast features on Annie Besant more than once and it is expected that a seventeen-minute film on her will be released in all Indian theatres by the Films Division of the Government of India shortly.

Much of what Annie Besant said many decades ago is of striking relevance even today, not only for India, but for other countries also. Particular mention might be made of her insistence that a nation's prosperity cannot be built solely through economic development or other efforts at restructuring society. It must be founded on the character of the people. Today, the economically developed countries enjoy a high standard of living, but are burdened by grave social problems such as drug addiction, broken families, violence and loss of values. This comes of neglecting the psychological and moral aspects of the national life. No society can prosper, as Annie Besant declared, unless the people who compose it are healthy psychologically and morally, even if they lack spiritual understanding. But when a society has a living spiritual tradition and way of life, as India did at one time, there

is the atmosphere for the blossoming of all the higher human faculties and potential powers. Dr Annie Besant's views on many other subjects are of profound value and need to be presented again in a suitable form. With this in view, the Theosophical Publishing House at Adyar has brought out a small but valuable book intended to be the first of a series containing extracts from Annie Besant's lectures and works. It is entitled *Annie Besant on the Brotherhood of Religions*, and is compiled by the Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan. It is available at a low price, so that lodges in India and elsewhere can have it widely circulated and presented to schools and other institutions. This will be followed by other booklets on National Reconstruction, Education, Citizenship and so forth.

The Indian Section's headquarters at Varanasi was the home of Dr Besant from 1895 till 1907, when she was elected President of the Theosophical Society. Her memory is still strong in that city. Her generosity made possible the founding of the Benares Hindu University, and it was under her scheme of National Education that some of the educational institutions in Varanasi, now under the Krishnamurti Foundation India, came into existence. Commemoration meetings were organized by them, and by other organizations which owe their existence to Dr Besant, like the Scout movement and the Women's Indian Association. Mr M.P. Singhal, who is now the General Secretary of the

Indian Section, expresses the hope that these events will help in reducing the disharmony and conflict in the country and help to create a better social environment.

The membership of the Section continues to be the biggest, with more than 10,000 on the rolls. The General Secretary plans to give more importance to Lodges situated in remoter areas to the translation of theosophical books in regional languages, and encouraging members to participate more in discussions and other programmes. In this Section, as elsewhere, problems have arisen over properties, as many of them have acquired a high market value in recent years. It is important to find ways and means to avoid unpleasant situations and litigation, and consequent waste of energy and money.

At the Consultative Meeting of the General Council held in Brazil in July, this question was discussed at some length. Various suggestions were made which the members of the Council will consider further, but all proposed remedies are bound to be inadequate because problems and laws vary in different countries and regions. The best course is of course to keep our Lodges active in the right way. Wherever the majority of members are devoted and loyal, material problems do not arise.

Unfortunately our appeal before the High Court of Denmark failed. Although clear evidence was presented to show that the building, library, funds, etc. in Copenhagen belonged to the Danish Section, the judges upheld their appropriation by the Foundation

established by the former General Secretary, on a purely technical point, namely that there was no specific clause in the Rules of the Danish Section declaring it to be an integral part of the International Society. It is obviously necessary to ensure that the Rules of all Lodges, Sections and other units of the International Society should state clearly that that body is a part of the international organization and subject to the international Rules.

Happily, the work in Denmark has made a new start and the membership is rising little by little. Public lectures and members' meetings are now being held regularly in Copenhagen in rented premises and plans exist to publicize these activities more effectively. Mr Curt Berg and Mrs Barbro Melander are supporting the work by visits, lectures and advice. Let us pray that the little theosophical sapling in Denmark will grow quickly into a mighty tree.

In neighbouring Sweden, activities are being carried on steadily, with the bookshop in Stockholm as a focus of public attention. Dr John Algeo's book on Reincarnation is ready for publication in Swedish. Seven members participated in the World Congress, including the General Secretary, Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund. The members in Norway hope to acquire premises for meetings in Oslo and also to resuscitate the lodge in Bergen.

Finland has been active as usual. Dr Angel Rubio, General Secretary for Spain, was the guest speaker at the summer session. Finnish members have been organizing meetings in Tallinn and other cities in Estonia,

and a new lodge was formed in the north of the country.

Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and Wales, all have a small membership. In Dublin a small group led by Mrs W. Woods is bravely carrying on despite serious problems inherited from the past. In Belfast the lodge meets regularly unhampered by the troubled circumstances around. Scotland received visits from Mrs Rosemary Larbalestier and Mrs Helen Gething. Their magazine *Circles* is being sent to members and enquirers. The Charter of the Welsh Section was withdrawn and it was certified as a Regional Association.

The Theosophical Publishing House in London had to close down because of financial problems. The publications are being mailed out from the theosophical headquarters in London, where the bookshop continues to function. As reported previously, this Section, at one time a very large one, has been steadily losing members. Steps need to be taken to reverse the trend.

The Italian Section has on the other hand a growing membership, under the leadership of Mr Edoardo Bratina who was once again re-elected as General Secretary. Mrs Danielle Audoin and Miss Tran Thi Kim Diêu from France were the guest speakers at its 79th National Convention. They also addressed a weekend gathering at Bari, along with Mr Curt Berg, as well as the French-speaking summer school at Bellaria, near Rimini. The General Secretary remarks that it is necessary to pay greater attention to the essential teaching of Theosophy

and to point out the theosophical basis of ecology, psychology, education, and other subjects. In other words, much can be achieved by bringing to the attention of people the practical relevance of Theosophy to every aspect of human life. He adds that even people who do not grasp the deeper spiritual content of Theosophy can be given clear ideas about the application of theosophical principles to various aspects of human life. Because lodges so often have programmes in which Theosophy and its basic teachings are ignored or kept in the background, and talks are about 'everything save Theosophy', the public is not rightly informed about what the Theosophical Society can accomplish for the world and what the theosophical philosophy explains.

The magazine of the Spanish Section is increasing its circulation both in Spain and outside. The Spanish and Portuguese members met during the 'Iberian Days' at Fatima, in Portugal. Regular meetings took place in Lisbon and other parts of the country.

The membership of the French Section has increased for the first time in many years. It includes members in several French-speaking countries of Africa. The new General Secretary, Professor C.T. Phan, reports that the Committee for helping Eastern Europe which functions from France has been active in printing books in Russian and Hungarian and dispatching them for distribution. Dr H. van der Hecht, General Secretary of the Belgian Section, reports that the lodge in Liege has resumed activities after a period of

suspension. Professor P. Krishna was guest speaker at Brussels, and his talks were highly appreciated. The Dutch Section had two Conventions in the north and the south. Seven books were published and others are on the anvil.

There is a close relationship between the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden and the Section. Among the speakers at Naarden seminars were the International President, Professor P. Krishna, Mr Curt Berg, Mr Adam Warcup and Mr Alan Senior from Scotland. Professor Henryk Skolimowski and four young scientists gave lectures at the Summer Session, the theme being 'Universal Compassion and Ecological Necessity'.

There is a vital need for the spirit of compassion, for it can save the world from ecological and many other problems. The Theosophical Order of Service exists to promote this spirit, not merely to do things. But its work is not always sufficiently appreciated, partly because of lack of communication and dissemination of information. However, highly commendable work is going on under its auspices. Plans are now being made to issue a better News Bulletin to keep workers in touch with each other and also suggest new projects that could be undertaken. Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin will be replacing Mr C. Seshadri, who has faithfully done his best for many years as the co-ordinator at the international level. Details of the work done all over the world can be obtained by interested members of whom, we hope, there will be an increasing number.

The new General Secretary in Germany, Ger Baron von der Osten Sacken, says that they had good attendance at study gatherings. They have not yet succeeded in making headway in East Germany. The 'Adyar' Publishing House brought out several books during the year. In sorting out the material in the Gottingen Library derived from Dr Hubbe-Schleiden, an early Theosophist, much information about relations with Dr Rudolph Steiner came to light, which will, of course, interest the historically-minded. The German-speaking summer school took place at Rohrbach in upper Austria, where the European Council also met. There were participants from the Czech Republic, Croatia, Slovenia, Russia, Hungary and Estonia, who were invited by the European Federation.

The work in the Czech Republic, I regret to say, has not proceeded, since the Presidential Representative failed to take interest. Attempts are being made to involve others. In Hungary, public lectures were held and many enquiries were received after a television programme was broadcast, interviewing the International Secretary, Mr Pedro Oliveira, and the Presidential Representative, Mr Laszlo Reicher. Sixteen theosophical books and booklets have been published so far. There is a plan to start a periodical. The conditions in the Eastern European countries continue to be difficult, and we must appreciate the labour of those who are trying hard to revive theosophical activity in these places.

In Slovenia regular meetings are

going on. Miss Mary Anderson is a frequent visitor, whose guidance has been valuable. A magazine is being published in Slovenian, and translations of *Stanzas of Dzyan*, *The Key to Theosophy*, *Chakras*, and *Self-Culture* are being made available. The Organizing Secretary, Mr Anton Jesse, remarks that they urgently need premises of their own and a photocopying machine.

Miss Mary Anderson, Secretary of the European Federation, visited Greece and lectured at the Section's Headquarters, thus renewing contact after several years with this Section. Her lectures were well received, and it is to be hoped that there will be more information and contact in the future.

In Argentina, they celebrated a hundred years of Theosophy by distributing 15,000 leaflets and other literature. Lectures, workshops and other activities proceeded as usual. In Brazil, which is the largest Section in South America, in spite of the heavy work of the World Congress, the General Secretary, Mr Ulisses Riedel, and his Assistant, Mr Ricardo Lindemann, among others lectured in many places. Seven new books were brought out, and an increase in sales is reported. The Section has acquired a large and beautiful property not far from Brasilia, with generous donations from Mr Ulisses Riedel. Some buildings have also been put up. Prior to the World Congress, there was a tree-planting ceremony and the first meetings took place. There are plans to organize several different kinds of theosophical and allied activities in this Centre. A home for children has

been started as part of the activities of the Theosophical Order of Service.

Mr and Mrs Palmeri of Argentina were guests at the Summer School in Bolivia, where work is done mainly in Cochabamba and La Paz. The Presidential Representative from Peru reports that a series of public lectures was organized in Lima as a result of which the TS is getting to be better known. Regular study goes on. There are five Lodges in Puerto Rico, and one in the Dominican Republic, and some study groups in these two countries which make up the Puerto Rican Section. Broadcasting programmes are a regular part of the activities of the Uruguayan Section, with whom communication has been very unsatisfactory.

The activities of the Cuban Section have become more difficult, because of deteriorating conditions. Members have to walk long distances to attend meetings. In spite of this, new groups have been started where none existed before, and work goes on without a break.

The Mexican Section's report mentions that a new magazine named *Atma Vidya* has been started. A workshop on training and development of theosophical workers was conducted near Mexico and 120 members attended. The Inter-American Federation's report mentions that they sent two speakers, Mrs Dolores Gago and Mr Alfredo Puig, to deliver lectures and train workers in several of the Latin American countries. It is considering a proposal to print *The Theosophical Digest* in Portuguese and Spanish and to

co-ordinate the publication of books in Spanish.

The General Secretary of the East and Central African Section reports that there were several radio broadcasts and television programmes this year, particularly during the visit of the International President. Books from Adyar are sold in good numbers. The Theosophical Order of Service is actively engaged in sponsoring students, helping street children, and so on. Mr T.G. Davis, General Secretary for South Africa, reports that in spite of difficulties arising from widespread violence and the deteriorating economy, the Annual Convention held in Pretoria was attended by delegates from all the main lodges, and efforts are being made to find ways of spreading Theosophy. In West Africa the Annual Convention was held at the end of March, with the International President as guest. Workers' courses are now a regular feature. *At the Feet of the Master* has been brought out in Akan Twi, their main language. The Bookshop Company is trying to spread Theosophy more widely. The civil wars in Monrovia and Togo have seriously affected the work of the lodges in those countries.

Miss Joy Mills was elected as National President of the Australian Section. She has visited all the lodges and groups and has brought some new ideas with regard to work in the Section. The Education Officer, Mrs Bev Champion, has also been in contact with the lodges. Dr and Mrs Yves Marcel also made an extensive tour. The New Zealand Section had

Miss Joy Mills, Mr Pedro Oliveira, and Dr Yves Marcel as guests. The postal library service from headquarters is said to be always well patronized. The Section is making good use of modern methods of presentation such as videos. However, there was a decrease of 191 members during the year. The General Secretary, Mr Hugh Dixon, points out that every one of us can help to change the thought world surrounding the planet even if we cannot do anything else. There are many ways of making Theosophy known and there is not a single individual who cannot help in some way if he is really interested in doing some service.

There is a vast untapped area in Asia where work must be done to make Theosophy known. Dr C.V. Agarwal, Presidential Representative for Southeast Asia, commenced this uphill task by trying to make better contacts through correspondence and visits. The General Secretary for Sri Lanka mentions that Dr Agarwal's visit helped them very much and they hope to have him in the Section again. In Malaysia there is only one active lodge in Penang. It is a laborious task to establish a nucleus in places where there is not even a single member. Attempts have been made to activate the lodge in Hong Kong but the results have not been very satisfactory. There is no contact at all with the lodge in Korea and we may have to write it off. Dr Agarwal has attempted to build a better foundation in Japan by speaking on the essential work of the Society, and contacting enquirers. Singapore Lodge is the most active in

the area. Noteworthy improvements in its work were made by Mrs Manize Sait, its President, who publishes *Jewel in the Lotus*, a magazine that brings Theosophy to the public in an easily readable and attractive form.

My tour of two months in African countries renewed contacts. It began with Zambia where the Regional Convention attracted about a hundred members, mostly African. They came in spite of serious financial and transportation problems. A brief visit to Harare in Zimbabwe proved useful. It is the only lodge that survives in that country and must be made into a focus for Theosophy to go to other areas. My further journey took me to Ghana and Nigeria, and ended with visits to Kenya and Tanzania. In Accra and Nairobi, the Annual Conventions took place during my visit. The trip made me aware of the great theosophical potential of this continent, and of the need to extend much more help to these areas. In July and August, after the World Congress in Brazil, I was in Krotona and Olcott for some time, and later participated in the Parliament of the World's Religions. I also journeyed to several different places in the Indian Section during the intervals between these long voyages.

The Vice-President presided over several regional conferences in India and was present at the World Congress in Brazil. Mr Pedro Oliveira, the International Secretary, was the chief guest at the Conventions of the Australian and New Zealand Sections, but unfortunately his tour had to be curtailed because of a motor accident.

Among other persons who braved the discomforts, and sometimes adventures, of travelling, were Mr Curt Berg and Miss Kim Diêu, Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of the European Federation. They visited Russia twice, conducted an introductory course on Theosophy in Magnitogorsk and a seminar in Moscow organized by 'The Friends of Blavatsky' society, who were given aid by the Federation to print 5,000 copies of *Human Regeneration* in Russian. Mr Berg remarks that in both places they met interested people who might be useful for future work.

\* \* \*

At Adyar, the School of the Wisdom had two sessions as usual, one conducted by Mr A.R. Bakshi, who took as the theme, 'Windows in Consciousness'. The second session from October to December was to start with conducted by Mr Pedro Oliveira and myself, and then by Miss Ianthe Hoskins, who has been giving study-courses on *The Secret Doctrine* and *Viveka-Chudamani*, and instruction on the oral presentation of Theosophy.

The Adyar Library received a large gift of American publications on India from the American Institute of Indian Studies. The collaborative work with the University of Chicago is proceeding, but at an even pace. A consignment of microfilms has been received from the University to add to the collection of our Library. Dr K.K. Raja, Director of the Library, has been nominated as a member of the Government of India's

Central Board of Sanskrit. Mrs Meenakshi Narayanamurthy, qualified in library science, has been appointed as Assistant Librarian.

New publications of our Publishing House include *HPB Teaches*, an anthology; and *A Lonely Disciple* which is a monograph on T. Subba Row prepared by Dr N.C. Ramanujachary. Three Russian translations of theosophical books were brought out on behalf of the European Federation, Dr Besant's two addresses to the 1893 Parliament of World Religions, with an introduction by Miss Joy Mills, entitled *The Universal Law of Life*, sold very well.

For several years we have been endeavouring to free the Olcott Memorial School from the constraints of being an aided school, with staff paid by Government. This year Government was pleased to allow us to convert the School into a self-financing institution, without of course levying fees from the poor students whom it serves. All the staff receiving pay from Government were transferred and qualified new people appointed. Fortunately, we are able to meet the cost for the present with support from the Education Endowment Fund and donations received for the School. However, this Endowment Fund needs to be doubled to put the School on a permanently sound footing and allow for rising costs and developments. The Swiss and Australian Sections have generously offered support for a few years to enable building up of the capital. During the year, the roofs of all the classrooms have been made permanent. We plan to have a Prayer

Hall by the end of the coming year, so that the children can assemble even in inclement weather.

The buildings of the Social Welfare Centre have been renovated, the grounds made beautiful and a new sense of order brought into the work of the Centre under the supervision of Mrs Swarnagauri Govindaraj. There are the right conditions now for further development.

As reported last year, a lawsuit has been instituted to remove the Blue Cross of India from our premises; they have violated the agreements entered into in several ways. Meanwhile, we shall build up the Animal Welfare Endowment Fund and be ready to take over the animal welfare work.

Our headquarters campus has had water problems ever since the neighbourhood population started rising. To increase the water supply, tanks and wells have been dredged and other measures taken. A plan is being worked out to provide extra accommodation for Convention delegates by erecting light structures on the first floors of some buildings. This will eliminate the fire risks and other worries connected with putting up temporary thatched sheds each year.

Several new constructions are coming up in Besant Gardens. One will be used for the HPB hostel, where a section for girls will be opened. Besides this building, two residences are being constructed. Extensive maintenance work is also going on continually as the estate has many old buildings.

Inevitably, several veteran workers passed over to the higher regions

during the year. I may particularly mention Mr Mohanlal Velji whose services to the Indian Section and international headquarters cannot be forgotten; Mrs Claire Wyss of Switzerland, who was Chairman of the European Federation for some years and a well known figure in Europe; Mrs Eunice Layton who, with her husband Felix, was for several years an able disseminator of Theosophy through the 'Spotlight' programme, and who during her last years, gave her energy to the work in Krotona; and Mrs Emily Sellon who was another well-known member of the American Section.

Mr A. Sabry resigned as Treasurer of the International Society for personal reasons and returned in June to his home in Egypt. Mr D.K. Govindaraj, who has most ably fulfilled the responsibilities of General Manager for several years and who is qualified in financial matters, now holds the double responsibility of Treasurer and General Manager, pending the appointment of a suitable person in the latter capacity. I am very thankful to him for shouldering all the work involved.

Mr Pedro Oliveira, International Secretary, has also taken up a lot of work, including the extensive correspondence needed to maintain strong links between headquarters and the rest of the theosophical world. He took a large share in organizing the programme of the World Congress and went in advance to Brasilia to ensure better co-ordination.

The Manager of the Publishing House, Mr R. Gopalaratnam, has been

## Presidential Address

handicapped by serious health problems in recent years, and had to retire completely this year. Lt. Col. Nandan Nilakanta and Mr C.S. Siddhartha have taken over the responsibility of this important work. I express gratitude to Mr Gopalaratnam for his loyal and unstinting service.

Mrs Uma Nilakanta took charge as Superintendent of Leadbeater Chambers at the end of last year, and has effected noticeable improvements. From the middle of this year, she has also been Superintendent of Bhojanasala.

Mr Arjun Gopalaratnam is now the head of the garden and is initiating new measures to protect the produce, manure and water the fruit trees and improve the general maintenance. We are also very happy to have in the

Museum and Archives Mrs Izar Tauceda, who is a trained librarian, under whose direction the cataloguing system will be updated.

These and other workers help to make Adyar the living Centre that it is. It is said that 'Adyar is a place of magic for those who come for readjustment to the Real, and who, therefore are happy to take all things at Adyar as they come and make the most and the best of it.'

It is here that one can learn best 'to throw open all doors and gates which now shut us out from that Brotherland of the Spirit' which is the heritage of all humanity. May this Convention help us to lift ourselves into that land of the Spirit and send forth its sublime Peace to all living creatures.

Radha Burnier

THE TREASURER'S REPORT  
AND  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 1993



## TREASURER'S REPORT

The consolidated expenditure of the Society shows a surplus of Rs. 37,770/-. During the year; the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund has increased from Rs. 18,026,107/- to Rs. 19,916,891/- and Other Funds from Rs. 14,195,079/- to Rs. 19,002,330/-. The overall financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory.

Income from investments went up significantly during the year due to special circumstances like steep increase in the interest rates on investments and also on account of crediting Rs. 508,316/- to the Income and Expenditure Account from the previous year, being interest realized on investments of corpus funds out of foreign contributions which have to be accounted for separately as income and not capitalized as was done earlier. However, the bank interest rates have fallen by nearly 25% in the recent past, and therefore, we do not expect any significant improvement in the earnings from investments. Other expenses such as electricity rates and municipal taxes are expected to rise in the coming years.

The amount spent on charitable work during the year is Rs. 1,137,587/-, which includes Rs. 947,408/- on education. We expect the spending on charitable activities to increase in the coming years especially on education as the Olcott Memorial School is no longer a government aided school and therefore the entire cost of running the School amounting to Rs. 600,000/- for the present has to be met by us. Fortunately, as exchange rates have been favourable, we were able to appropriate Rs. 12 lakhs to the Education Endowment Fund, which will have to be further increased to meet the full expenditure on the school from now onwards.

In respect of departments, the following may be noted:

The net cost of running the Adyar Library and Research Centre was Rs. 181,549/- as against Rs. 172,070/- for the previous year.

The Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers are running satisfactorily. The cost of running the boarding section is increasing and the recovery is around 50% only as subsidized rates are charged to workers. Although there is a moderate surplus in the lodging account, there is need to spend considerable amounts on the renovation of buildings and improving lodging facilities.

The deficit in the Garden Department has gone up from Rs. 69,391/- to Rs. 289,000/- mainly due to development spending such as extensive repairs to water channels, desilting of ponds and wells and developing new water sources. The gross return from the cultivation account has shown a drop from Rs. 271,426/- to Rs. 198,319/-. This is due to increased cost of cultivation.

The net expenditure of the Maintenance Department is Rs. 1,885,857/- as against Rs. 1,972,005/- in the previous year. The renewal and upkeep of buildings in the

estate is being stepped up, as there are several buildings which are very old and need extensive renovation. The water pipes throughout the estate and the main water tank need replacement and the cost is expected to be substantial. There is also urgent need to develop new water resources in Besant Gardens and possibly introduce drip irrigation on a large scale over a period of time.

The Vasanta Press had a deficit of Rs. 239,912/- during the year compared to the surplus of Rs. 1,290/- in the previous year, due to rising cost of materials, machinery repairs and maintenance and increased depreciation.

The surplus from the Theosophical Publishing House amounts to Rs. 1,248,224/- and this is largely due to improvement in the sale of publications, favourable exchange rates, earnings from investments and increased royalty receipts.

On behalf of the Society, I express my gratitude for the continuing support and generosity of members throughout the world, whose donations and bequests enable the work to go on.

D. K. GOVINDARAJ  
*Hony. Treasurer*

2 December 1993

**FEES AND DUES RECEIVED**  
(From 1 April 1992 to 31 March 1993)

Name of the Section			1991-92	1992-93
			Rs.	Rs.
The Theosophical Society in Africa, East and Central ...			—	—
"	Africa, South	...	—	1,317
"	Africa, West	...	—	—
"	America, Central	...	—	12,350
"	Argentina	...	28,862	42,400
"	Asia, Southeast	...	—	—
"	Australia	...	68,231	73,518
"	Austria	...	9,481	—
"	Belgium	...	15,244	22,202
"	Bolivia	...	5,283	452
"	Brazil	...	79,189	—
"	Canada	...	1,204	6,088
"	Chile	...	2,568	2,827
"	Colombia	...	1,400	—
"	Cuba	...	—	—
"	Denmark	...	3,979	2,416
"	England	...	—	139,514
"	Finland	...	52,347	—
"	France	...	—	50,006
"	Germany	...	20,144	—
"	Greece	...	—	—
"	Hungary	...	—	14,169
"	Iceland	...	13,092	17,483
"	India	...	—	47,100
"	Ireland, North	...	—	—
"	Ireland	...	642	852
"	Italy	...	65,468	67,171
"	Mexico	...	—	—
"	Myanmar (Burma)	...	—	—
"	Netherlands	...	51,741	63,127
"	New Zealand	...	—	—
"	Norway	...	—	11,806
"	Pakistan	...	500	—
"	Peru	...	2,114	4,156
"	Philippines	...	—	—
"	Portugal	...	1,532	2,706
"	Puerto Rico	...	10,409	10,837
"	Scotland	...	1,296	2,167
"	Slovenia	...	3,141	4,109
"	Spain	...	19,861	19,336
"	Sri Lanka	...	—	—
"	Sweden	...	14,594	32,186
"	Switzerland	...	—	—
"	U.S.A.	...	250,639	255,925
"	Uruguay	...	3,081	—
"	Venezuela	...	1,300	1,804
"	Wales	...	870	1,539
Lodges attached to Adyar	...	...	2,653	41,085
Fellows at large	...	...	7,114	12,170
			<u>737,979</u>	<u>962,818</u>

# THE THEOSOPHICAL

## BALANCE SHEET AS

As at 31-3-1992	LIABILITIES	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-1993	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
	<b>General Fund:</b>			
18,797,637	Balance as per last Balance Sheet ...		19,954,657	
—	Add: Donations for Capital Additions		—	
1,121,171	„ Transfer from Adyar Estate Improvement Fund ...		—	
109,267	„ Transfer from Other Funds ...		133,085	
20,028,075			20,087,742	
(53,920)	Less: Transfer to Other Funds ...		—	
19,974,155 (19,498)	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year ...		20,087,742 37,770	20,125,512
19,954,657				
18,026,107	Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund ...			19,916,891
14,195,079	Other Funds ...	5		19,002,330
2,196,444	Current Liabilities and Provisions ...	6		2,432,710
	Notes on Accounts ...	7		
54,372,287				61,477,443

In the opinion of the Executive Committee the Current Assets, Loans and Advances are approximately of the value stated if realized in the ordinary course of transacting the affairs of the Society and the Provision made in the accounts for all known liabilities is adequate.

MADRAS  
15-10-1993

D. K. GOVINDARAJ  
Hony. Treasurer

AT 31ST MARCH 1993

This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our Report of even date.

FRASER & ROSS  
*Chartered Accountants*

# THE THEOSOPHICAL

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-3-1992	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-1993	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
	<b>Departments: (Net Expenditure)</b>		
29,156	Bhojanasala ...	43,968	
69,391	Garden ...	289,000	
71,359	Leadbeater Chambers ...	65,627	
1,972,005	Maintenance ...	1,885,857	2,284,452
	<b>Charitable Work:</b>		
3,436	Animal Welfare ...	12,825	
344,343	Education (Including Class Room Renovation Rs. 872,407) ...	947,408	
20,113	Distress Relief ...	32,163	
37,591	Free Dispensary ...	42,688	
10,165	Medical Treatment ...	7,358	
8,852	School Fees and Books ...	10,208	
24,126	Social Welfare work ...	80,737	
2,973	Miscellaneous ...	4,200	
2,593,510		1,137,587	
(313,761)	<i>Less: Govt. of India Grant</i>	—	
(58,600)	utilized for school	—	
	Transfer from Other Funds	150,524	987,063
2,221,149			
	<b>Propagation of Theosophy:</b>		
348,278	Adyar Library ...	443,568	
1,194,948	The Theosophical Publishing House ...	1,453,163	
317,551	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	327,700	
1,277,677	The Vasanta Press ...	1,403,727	
23,792	School of the Wisdom ...	46,826	
10,037	T. S. Workers' Training Camp ...	10,178	
8,098	Information and Public Relations ...	1,439	
42,226	Archives and Museum ...	88,348	
13,990	Theosophy Science Centre ...	17,083	
6,663	T O S International ...	6,712	
720,410	Donation of <i>The Secret Doctrine</i> to Russia ...	—	
6,184,819		3,798,744	
(10,037)	<i>Less: Transfer from Other Funds</i>	10,178	3,788,566
6,174,782			
	<b>International Offices:</b>		
76,026	President and Vice-President ...	85,355	
169,476	Treasurer ...	129,260	
42,308	Secretary ...	93,419	308,034
	<b>Establishment:</b>		
71,095	Headquarters ...	73,698	
31,882	General Manager's Office ...	31,154	
96,372	Movable Properties Department ...	99,823	
55,498	Sanitary Department ...	65,523	
320,701	Security Department ...	314,063	584,261
7,038,140			
	c / f		7,952,376

SOCIETY, ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1993

Year ended 31-3-1992	INCOME	Year ended 31-3-1993
Rs.		Rs. Rs.
	<b>Propagation of Theosophy :</b>	
176,208	Adyar Library	262,019
2,158,907	The Theosophical Publishing House ...	2,699,192
290,385	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	388,440
1,278,967	The Vasanta Press ...	1,163,815
8,262	Theosophy Science Centre ...	1,709
		4,515,175
886,409	General Donations ...	498,018
2,097,008	Interest ...	4,089,964
737,979	Fees and Dues ...	962,818
72,000	Licence Fees ...	54,000
138,218	Quarters Maintenance ...	140,029
9,430	Income from Surat Property ...	1,300
62,354	Miscellaneous Receipts ...	142,719
19,498	Deficit transferred to General Fund ...	—
7,935,625	c / f	10,404,023

# THE THEOSOPHICAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-3-1992	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-1993	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
7,038,140	b/f		7,952,376
	<b>Other Expenses:</b>		
12,922	Insurance Premium ...	—	
27,412	Legal and Court Expenses ...	153,394	
18,778	Audit Fees ...	33,485	
1,809	Rates and Taxes ...	230,820	
303	Bank Charges ...	367	
710,797	Depreciation ...	677,538	
34,574	Motor Car Expenses ...	41,964	
90,890	Miscellaneous ...	76,309	
			1,213,877
—	Transfer to Education Endowment Fund ...		1,200,000
—	Surplus transferred to General Fund ...		37,770
7,935,625			
			10,404,023

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1993

FRASER & ROSS  
Chartered Accountants

D. K. GOVINDARAJ  
*Hony. Treasurer*

# THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-1995

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	Rs.		Rs.
<b>Departments (Net Expenditure)</b>		<b>Propagation of Theosophy</b>	
Bhojanasala ...	55,000	Adyar Library & Research Centre ...	100,00
Garden ...	245,000	Theosophical Publishing House	1,319,00
Leadbeater Chambers ...	78,500	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	460,00
Maintenance ...	2,290,000	The Vasanta Press ...	1,300,00
<b>Charitable Work:</b>		General Donations ...	400,00
Animal Welfare ...	24,000	Interest ...	4,400,00
Education ...	600,000	Membership Fees and Dues ...	900,00
H.P.B. Memorial Relief ...	50,000	Licence Fees ...	84,00
Free Dispensary ...	60,000	Quarters Maintenance ...	200,00
Medical Treatment ...	9,000	Miscellaneous ...	90,00
School Fees and Books ...	50,000	Excess of Expenditure over Income ...	—
Social Welfare Work ...	120,000		
Others ...	10,000		
<b>Propagation of Theosophy</b>			
Adyar Library & Research Centre ...	354,000		
Theosophical Publishing House	596,500		
The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	549,000		
The Vasanta Press ...	1,478,000		
School of the Wisdom ...	50,000		
Workers' Training Camp ...	15,000		
Information and Public Relations ...	10,000		
Archives and Museum ...	120,000		
Theosophy Science Centre ...	20,000		
TOS International ...	10,000		
<b>International Offices</b>			
President and Vice-President ...	100,000		
Treasurer ...	150,000		
Secretary ...	120,000		
<b>Establishment</b>			
Headquarters ...	90,000		
General Manager's Office ...	40,000		
Movable Properties ...	150,000		
Sanitary Department ...	80,000		
Security Department ...	500,000		
<b>Other Expenses</b>			
Legal Expenses ...	36,000		
Audit Fees ...	35,000		
Rates & Taxes ...	200,000		
Motor Car Maintenance ...	48,000		
Miscellaneous ...	100,000		
Depreciation ...	700,000		
Excess of Income over Expenditure ...	110,000		
	<u>9,253,000</u>		<u>9,253,000</u>

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020

INDIA



## THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

During the year ending September 93, the Theosophical Publishing House at Adyar brought out several new publications and nineteen reprints for sale.

Of the reprints, titles like *The Purpose of Tragedy* by Hugh Shearman, and an unabridged edition of *The Masters and the Path* by C. W. Leadbeater had long been out of print.

The new publications released are *HPB Teaches—An Anthology* compiled by M. Gomes and *A Lonely Disciple*, a monograph on T. Subba Row by Dr N. C. Ramanujachary as well as Russian language translations of three books, namely *An Outline of Theosophy* by C. W. Leadbeater, *Ancient Wisdom* by Dr Annie Besant and *At the Feet of The Master* by J. Krishnamurti. Dr Annie Besant's two addresses at the Parliament of World Religions in September 1893 were published under the title *The Universal Law of Life* to coincide with the centenary of that parliament and the second parliament held in 1993. This book is selling very well.

The T.P.H. also offered a 25% discount on sales during the period 15 June to 31 December 1993 on all books by

Dr Annie Besant in commemoration of the centenary of her arrival in India.

Plans were made to publish compilations of Dr Annie Besant's works on the *Reconstruction of India*, on *Education* and on *Citizenship* as well as on the *Brotherhood of Religions* (which compilation by Surendra Narayan has since been published at a specially reduced price).

Plans are in hand to publish four new books and several reprints or fresh editions of previous publications during the next year and some of these will be on sale by the time this report appears in print.

Serious health problems have hampered Lt. Col. R. Gopalaratnam (Retd.) in carrying out his duties as Manager. Mr C. S. Siddhartha and Lt. Col. N. Nilakanta have been carrying on the work as Deputy Managers since 15 September 1993. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to Col. Gopalaratnam for the outstanding work he has done for so many years, enabling the T.P.H. to expand its sales, produce better quality books as well as make other improvements.

LT. COL. N. NILAKANTA  
Manager

## THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

The activities of the Adyar Library have been going on steadily as usual. Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam is being assisted by Miss R. Padmini, Mrs Meenakshi Narayanamurthi and Miss K. Jaishree. Mrs Meenakshi is a qualified librarian who joined the Adyar Library in June 1993.

The Director Dr K. Kunjunni Raja has been nominated as a member of the Central Sanskrit Board by the Government of India. He continues to be a member of the Planning Committee of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta. He is also cooperating with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts.

### New Publications

1. *Brahmavidya*, the Adyar Library Bulletin, vol. 56, December 1992.
2. *Sangitaratnakara* of Sarngadeva with commentaries of Simhabhupala and Kallinatha, vol. I, edited by S. Subramanya Sastri, revised by Smt. Sarada with index of technical terms.
3. *Bhamati Catussutri* (reprint).

### Works in Preparation

1. *Brahmavidya*, vol. 57.
2. *Chandogyopanisad*, vol. 1, with the commentary of Upanisad Brahma Yogin, revised edition by Dr San-karanarayanan with gloss.
3. *Descriptive Catalogue of Jyotisa MSS.*, dealing with Astronomy, Astrology, Mathematics, Architecture and Kama Sastra by Dr K. V. Sarma.
4. *Descriptive Catalogue of Tamil MSS.*, by Pandit K. Ramachandra Sarma.
5. *Prābhākara Vijaya*, critical edition with translation by Dr E. R. Sree-Krishna Sarma.
6. *Textual Criticism* by Dr K. Kunjunni Raja and Dr K. V. Sarma.

### Service Rendered

The Library has been as usual supplying photocopies of rare books and manuscripts to research scholars from India and abroad. Out of the 15,846 frames supplied, 676 were of palm-leaf manuscripts, 283 of paper manuscripts, 10,283 of transcripts and 399 of rare books. Besides these 783 frames were

made for the Adyar Library and 1,169 for the Theosophical Society.

### Acquisition and Cataloguing

During the year, 1,356 books were accessed and 1,203 catalogued. Our thanks are due to T.P.H. Wheaton for donating 18 books, to T.P.H. Adyar for 251 books, the President's Office for 116 books, and others for 495 books.

We have 431 Readers and 326 Borrowers. The number of books borrowed was 5,733; books consulted by Pandits and others numbered 24,202 and of manuscripts 3,331.

### Research Scholars

Scholars from various universities and research institutes utilized the facilities, including Ragini Balachandran (Rutger's University, U.S.A.), Miss Tamsin Hoggs (London University), Laurence Joseph Mccrea (Chicago), Fuloshi (Kyushu University, Japan), Toshihiro Mikami (Tohoku University, Japan), Fultoshi Omae (Kyushu University, Japan), Fujitani Takayuki (Kyushu University, Japan) and Miss Karen Pechilis (Chicago University).

Among visitors to the Library during the year were Prof. Kamaleshwar Bhattacharya (Paris), V. K. Chari (Carlton University, Canada), Dr James Nye (University of Chicago), T. S. Rukmani (Durban University, South Africa), Walter Weiss (Austria), Anatoli and Galino (Russian Embassy), Miss Yoom (University of Tangguk, South Korea), Dr Vattanky (Pune).

MRS PARVATI GOPALARATNAM  
Acting Librarian

## THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

The School of the Wisdom at Adyar had two highly successful sessions. The January-March 1993 session was conducted by Mr Justice A. R. Bakshi on the

theme 'Windows in Consciousness'. A senior member of the Indian Section, his talks made a valuable synthesis of the Eastern traditional worldview with that of

contemporary philosophers and scientists. Students were from England, Norway, Indonesia, New Zealand, Belgium, U.S.A. and India.

The October-December 1993 session comprised two parts. The theme for the first part in October was 'Fundamentals of Theosophical Study and Work'. Mrs Radha Burnier and Mr Pedro Oliveira took up classes on the book *Human Regeneration*, based on the seminars that she had conducted in July 1990 at Naarden, Holland. Video tapes of the Naarden Seminar were also screened for the students.

### MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Many persons used the Archives for their research work on subjects which included the life and work of Mrs Cooper-Oakley, Mrs & Mr Cousins and Mrs Uma Devi. Sections like Hungary and Netherlands whose old records are not available completed their history with copies of material available here.

As this year there were nationwide celebrations of the centenary of Annie Besant's arrival in India, there was a great demand for photos and other material relating to her life and work by those wishing to write articles and books on her. Material was supplied to Govt. of India for a booklet which was issued in three languages of India (Hindi, Tamil and English). These booklets will be distributed by the thousands. Material was also supplied for a seventeen-minute film on Annie Besant to be released in all Indian theatres by the Films Division of

The November-December 1993 session was conducted by Miss Ianthe Hoskins, a long-standing member and gifted speaker of the English Section, when she gave introductory courses on *The Secret Doctrine* and Sankara's *Viveka-Chudamani*. Her talks won much appreciation. This session attracted students from Belgium, Switzerland, Norway, Holland, New Zealand, Brazil, Mexico and the U.S.A. as well as from different parts of India. Miss Hoskins also conducted a course on oral presentation of Theosophy through lectures and study courses.

the Government of India shortly.

Another highlight of the year was an exhibition on the life and work of Annie Besant during the Convention. Besides photographs, copies of her letters, and parts of her speeches and writings were displayed. These proved of great interest and many delegates expressed their appreciation after visiting the exhibition.

The Director General of the Indian Conservation Institute—INTACH, Lucknow was good enough to depute two workers to complete the restoration work of paintings, begun last year. They have done commendable work.

The work of fumigation was continued. Mrs Izar Tauceda, a trained librarian from Brazil has joined and under her direction the cataloguing system is being updated.

MR S. S. VARMA  
Officer-in-Charge

### OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

In the year under report, the Olcott Memorial High School, the Banyan Centre for Educators, the H.P.B. Free Hostel and the Social Welfare Centre continued their regular work.

#### Olcott Memorial High School

The school had a strength of 726 comprising 456 boys and 270 girls. There were 18 teachers and one headmaster-in-charge, paid from the grant-in-aid

of the State government. In order to continue the value-based education reflecting the Theosophical Society's non-sectarian and humanistic vision, in addition, we had 12 well-qualified teachers, one part-time co-ordinator, four vocational instructors and a Principal appointed by the OES, resulting in the reduction of the teacher/pupil ratio. The improved climate of the school and the induction of additional staff brought about a marked improvement in the academic standard, the percentage of passes rising in the last five years from 32 to 72.

The free breakfast scheme for the primary school children is being supported by the generosity of T.S. members and sympathisers. Clothes, books, etc. were also provided free to them.

The restructuring of the existing examination pattern to encourage originality and thinking was gone into and the services of the State Council of Educational Research and Training was availed of. Mrs Thelma D. Rosario, Professor of English gave demonstration classes in teaching English and Prof. P. K. Srinivasan held mathematics classes.

In the cultural field, the assistance of the Madras Craft Foundation was availed of and folk programmes were conducted. During the international convention of the Theosophical Society, the students gave an entertainment programme which was much appreciated. The students were also taken on field trips. A Road Safety Patrol has been formed for regulating the traffic near the school campus. The Craft Centre, which was started with the generous gift of Mrs Alice Eichenberger, has sections for screen printing, tailoring, book-binding, typewriting,

wood-work, home-craft and gardening. They have functioned well.

### **HPB Hostel**

The Hostel is functioning well. It had 19 boy students from the Olcott School during the year. Mrs Dhanalakshmi Murugesan took charge as Superintendent of the hostel at the beginning of the year. Various members and lodges of the Theosophical Society have undertaken to sponsor the students. It is proposed to start a girls' section for which the architects' plans have been made.

### **Social Welfare Centre**

Mrs Swarnagowri was in charge of the Centre and made a number of improvements. Two creches and one balwadi are being run to cater to the needy children of the neighbourhood. About a hundred children are supplied free bread and milk in the morning and a noon meal. A free medical dispensary is also being run and there are over fifty outpatients daily. A tailoring section and a weaving unit provide training and a supplementary income to women from neighbouring areas. The premises were renovated at considerable cost by the Theosophical Society. Trees have been planted and a 'new look' given to the Centre.

### **Higher Education for Girls**

Financial assistance has been granted to girls of the Olcott Memorial High School and other nearby institutions for education beyond the school level from the munificent donations of Mrs Ingiborg Olafsdottir of Reykjavik, Iceland.

N. JANAKIRAM  
*Secretary*

## THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

The Theosophical Order of Service was founded by Dr Annie Besant, second President of the T.S. in 1908 with the Motto: 'A union of all who love in the service of all that suffers'. Its object is to make brotherhood real and practical so that misery, ignorance and pain may diminish and the world would become a happier place for all living beings. It is a philanthropic organization to serve all without distinction of race, creed or sex. All life is divine and service to the needy with reverence becomes worship. Universal brotherhood is a natural corollary of the essential oneness of all humanity, all life. The service one renders may be small, but its import is great as it is a symbol of loving care and social concern.

Let us remember Madame Blavatsky's words:

'He who does not practise altruism, he who is not prepared to share his last morsel with a weaker or poorer man than himself, he who neglects to help his brother man of whatever race or creed, wherever and whenever he meets suffering, and who turns a deaf ear to the cry of human misery, he who hears an innocent person slandered and does not undertake his defence as he would undertake his own, is no Theosophist'.

Although the TOS is active in nearly fifty countries around the world, we have received reports only from a few, which are summarized below:

### *England*

During the year the TOS in England distributed £3,200 to seven charities, which included a campaign to ban the wild bird trade, sending books on Theosophy to Eastern Europe and the

National Institute of Rural Integrated Development in India. One of its objectives is to keep more closely in touch with TOS groups overseas to give more reality to international brotherhood.

### *France*

The TOS is an integral part of the theosophical work in France. During the year it sponsored 47 children and 35 students, sent 33 parcels of medicines (1,500 kg. each) to India, Togo, Rumania, Poland and Lebanon, and gave miscellaneous donations to other charities. The next year the dispensaries and the schools supported by TOS will receive two shipments of medicines from Roussel Laboratories and Hoechst Laboratories in Bombay.

### *India*

The work of providing relief to the suffering and the needy continued fairly well in most parts of the country. Like last year, Bengal, Bombay, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka and Madras continued to be actively involved in welfare work. Other areas, like Assam, Maharashtra, Orissa and Punjab, are also now becoming more active.

As can be expected in a country like India where a large segment of the population is economically poor and therefore there is much physical suffering, illiteracy and deprivation, the welfare work of the Theosophical Order of Service largely takes the shape of medical relief through different systems of medicine, education for the poor, help to the physically handicapped through provision of aids which enable them to move about and work, free legal aid to the poor and monetary support on occasions of special needs. It is heartening

to note that, in response to a request from the National Headquarters, work for promoting child and adult literacy and preventing cruelty to animals has also been taken up by several of the regions. Some of the regions are also building up substantial endowment funds to make sure that relief work continues unaffected even in years when money raised through smaller donations is inadequate.

From the National Headquarters, monetary contributions were made for various causes, such as relief to victims of earthquake and cyclone. The Karnataka TOS has taken the initiative in starting a TOS Bulletin called *Seva Vahini*, which is expected to develop into an all-India Bulletin of the TOS, carrying news about the work being done in different regions as also inspiring and informative articles related to TOS ideals and philosophy.

#### *The Netherlands*

They are collecting money for building a girls' hostel at Adyar and they will try to make that girls' hostel a Dutch concern. For weak-sighted members they have lectures and books on tapes; and also supply on request the national magazine *Theosophia* enlarged. Financial and translation help for revival of the TS in Czechie is extended.

#### *Pakistan*

The TOS in Pakistan continues to be active in a number of areas; financial help to school and college students with aid from the Save the Children Fund, old age and family relief, medical relief, animal welfare and help to poor mothers for marriage of their girls.

#### *Philippines*

During the past year, the TOS not only continued to be active but became more integrated in its programmes. It was

formed into a Foundation and community development was integrated into a three-year programme to make the beneficiary-community self-reliant with its own leaders. Six community-based cooperatives were organized during the year. A tree seedling nursery was started in Quezon City. Seventy-nine children were given scholarships for primary and high schools. Two deep well pumps were installed.

Under the Self-Reliance Programme 148 persons received assistance to start small businesses. Fifty-eight children benefited from our Intensive Rehabilitation Programme. Another youth volunteer from Korea arrived on assignment to TOS for two years. The first finished his assignment last year.

#### *U.S.A.*

The TOS in America continues to expand its activities in several directions. Their magazine *For the Love of Life* helps coordinate the service of various departments: Animal Welfare, Art and Music, Ecology, Family, Healing, Peace and Social Service. The Family Department published articles and books for children, including ways to keep children out of gangs. Copies of *Parents Guide* continue to be sold. There are 46 groups and individuals in the Healing Network doing the ritual regularly. The Circles for Peace project has many participants who daily meditate for personal and planetary peace, with 137 members. The project has members in several other nations as well, who have developed lasting pen-friend relationships. The Social Service Department has expanded its service to more than 25 prisoners in Florida. The Senior Citizen Project in Illinois has grown into a very large service for the elderly.

C. SESHADRI  
International Secretary

REPORTS FROM  
SECTIONS, NATIONAL SOCIETIES,  
REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS,  
PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES, ETC.

(Where necessary, reports have been translated,  
edited or condensed.)



## REPORTS OF GENERAL SECRETARIES

### AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

The 37th bi-annual Convention of the Section was held at Nairobi during the Easter weekend 9-12 April 1993 on the theme 'Ethics and Morals for a Noble Society'. The International President, Mrs Radha Burnier graced the occasion as Guest Speaker. She delivered three keynote lectures and a talk on 'TS Work around the World'. A large number of delegates from Kenya and Tanzania, one from Zambia and two from Holland attended. There was considerable press, radio and television publicity of the Convention and the President's tour of various lodges in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. In Zambia a one-day Regional Convention was attended by 84 delegates during the President's visit and it was a great success.

The National Lecturer Mr Reuben Thuku's tour of lodges and talks at educational institutions and his several talks recorded for radio and for television

created considerable interest in Theosophy in many places.

*The Theosophist* continues to be distributed every month to 16 state-run libraries and four universities as well as four local newspapers in Kenya. Sale of theosophical literature ordered from Adyar continued.

Lodge meetings are held twice a week at Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam, one in English and the other in Gujarati/Hindi. At all lodges studies of various theosophical books continue. The Nairobi Lodge plans to hold a 'Beginners Seminar' towards the end of the year. Its Newsletter is becoming popular amongst members.

We now have 751 members (351 in Kenya; 188 in Tanzania and 212 in Zambia). Several of the Lodges in the Section carry out regular TOS activities.

MR BHUPENDRA R. VORA  
*General Secretary*

### AFRICA, SOUTHERN

Theosophical activities in Southern Africa have been adversely affected by the escalating violence and lawlessness which has become endemic in the main centres, coupled with a continually deteriorating economy. Many members have either lost their jobs or have been directly affected by political or criminal violence and theft. As a result our membership has declined further from 278 to 243 in spite of attracting 23 new members during the year.

However, we have continued valiantly to keep the work on track, with interesting weekly public lectures and study groups. Pretoria Lodge is also very active with weekly courses on astrology, plus meditation, Tai Chi and Yoga groups.

The Annual Easter Convention was held in Pretoria and was attended by delegates from most main centres. The theme of the Convention was 'Footsteps into the next Century: The Role of Theosophy in the new South Africa'. The

main speakers gave excellent talks on Futurology, Cosmic Astrology and the Planet in Change. The public lecture delivered by our guest speaker Dr Leslie Ples on 'The Emergence and Future of Holistic Healing' was very well received.

The General Secretary attended the 8th World Congress in Brasilia. Many good contacts were made at the Congress. Possibilities of attracting international speakers to Southern Africa and other local issues were discussed with the International President Mrs Radha Burnier.

Seven Executive Committee meetings were held during the year, with serious work being done to find ways of spreading Theosophy more effectively, in spite of the difficulties being experienced.

We have confidence in the future of this region and feel sure that things will improve when political stability has been established and Southern Africa has returned fully to the international scene.

MR T. G. DAVIS  
*General Secretary*

## AFRICA, WEST

Highlight of the year was the month-long visit (8 March to 7 April 1993) to the Section by the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier. She toured several centres in Ghana and Nigeria, but her visit to the lodge at Lome, Republic of Togo, was called off because of political unrest there. The occasion was one of brotherly feeling and a rare opportunity for members to meet her. She also could understand our problems and difficulties and provide guidance.

She delivered several public lectures including one at each of the three universities and was guest speaker at the TS conventions held at Accra and Lagos. She also conducted members' meetings and held general discussions. The attendance was fairly satisfactory. Three press interviews and a television interview provided wide media coverage for the tour.

The various Lodges and Centres keenly pursued their activities, including study

meetings and group discussions. The General Secretary, Publicity Officer and Director of Studies visited and lectured at many of the Lodges.

The third annual Workers' Course was held in Accra on 14-15 August 1993 on the text *The Voice of the Silence*. It ended with enhanced brotherliness and a resolve to live Theosophy.

A local language (Akan Twi) edition of *At the Feet of the Master* was published during the year. Our Bookshop Company has commenced business with books ordered from Adyar. Patronage is satisfactory.

We are eagerly awaiting completion of the headquarters building and are optimistic of the progress of the TS in West Africa in the coming years.

We take this opportunity to thank all Sections which supplied us with copies of their journals and other literature.

MR PAUL B. KWAKYI  
*General Secretary*

## AMERICA, CENTRAL

No report

## ARGENTINA

The Section donated fifty per cent of the cost of new premises for Lodge Ananda in the city of La Plata. The inauguration by Mrs Spairani was attended by forty members.

Two study seminars at a weekend resort near Buenos Aires attracted twenty members. Twenty-five youngsters attended a Youth Camp in San Rafael January 21-29. Our summer school was held in San Rafael Jan. 30-Feb. 7. Conducted by Juan Vinas, it had an attendance of 62. At the Book Fair in Buenos Aires (April 17-May 3) 15,000 leaflets in celebration of 100 years of Theosophy in Argentina were distributed as well as lecture programmes. Book sales were good.

Two national gatherings were held: in Buenos Aires, April 8-11, when a workshop on 'Learning to Work Together' was conducted by Mrs Spairani, and in

San Lorenzo (Santa Fe) August 13-18 by Juan Vinas on 'A Study of the Soul and its Faculties'. Members of the National Council visited upcountry lodges on lecture tours.

In Santa Fe and Buenos Aires there was intense activity carried on through lectures, courses, audio-visuals, panel discussions, etc. with a large attendance. In Cordoba, the work is slowly becoming more active.

The undersigned succeeded Mrs Nora Spairani as General Secretary in February 1993. The Section suffered a major burglary on April 28 when thieves not only took away records but also the Computer and Back-up. Councillors are trying to make up for all the damage, especially the account files, which implies real hard work.

MISS SILVIA RAQUEL BLAJER  
*General Secretary*

## AUSTRALIA

Activities in the branches throughout the Section are many and varied—from formal lectures to seminars, workshops and classes to informal discussions and casual meetings. Libraries and bookshops in all the major centres provide the resource materials for study and for introducing theosophical ideas to the public. Dedicated members often give long hours not only to the preparation of talks and class sessions, but also to maintain the premises and run the bookshops and libraries. One must express heartfelt gratitude to every member for the contribution that loyalty to a cause entails. Newsletters are published by several lodges. *Theosophy in Australia*, a quarterly, with a fifth Special Issue devoted

to various religious and mystical perspectives, continues to be the major means of communication. Membership stood at 1,355, a loss of 17 from the previous year. The programme of letters to new members is proposed to be expanded from 18 to 22 letters. A new pamphlet 'The Art of Meditation' was issued during the year. All other pamphlets are being revised.

Miss Joy Mills succeeded Mrs Patricia Witts as National President in January 1993 in a smooth transition ably assisted by Philip Carter in the newly-created office of National Secretary.

The International Secretary, Mr Pedro Oliveira was the guest speaker at our national convention in Brisbane 16-22

January with the theme 'Ethics of Theosophy—Cornerstone of a New World'. However, his tour of the lodges had to be curtailed because of an automobile accident. Miss Joy Mills toured every lodge and group in the Section during the year with a five-day interlude in New Zealand early June. Dr Yves Marcel of France toured the lodges during September–November and his talks were very much appreciated. The National President and two members attended the World Congress in Brasilia, when an invitation was extended to hold the Ninth World Congress in Sydney in the year 2000, as directed by the Executive Committee.

Mt. Helena, owned by Perth Lodge, was the site for a 'mini-Convention' over the Easter weekend when Miss Joy Mills led a three-day workshop on 'Nurturing our Spiritual Imagination'. The

Manor Centre in Sydney hosted a one-day seminar in March on 'The Ethics of Theosophy'. In June, the Theosophy-Science group held a seminar at the Manor. Many Lodges report numerous TOS projects and activities carried on by members. The national TOS organized a TOS Forum at the National Convention on 'New Dimensions in Healing Practices'. The Round Table is active in several lodges. We look forward to new horizons to bring about the inner regeneration of humanity and the formation of a genuine brotherhood which is the central aim of the TS. We must all become vision-inspired-persons. We need boldness, courage and teamwork as we envision a more radiant future for Theosophy in Australia.

MISS JOY MILLS  
*General Secretary*

## AUSTRIA

Work has been going on as usual in our three branches at Graz, Vienna and Linz. In August our summer school took place at Rohrbach in Upper Austria. This year the European Council was held before the summer school and as most of the Council members had decided to stay on for the following week we were able to offer a very fine programme for our guests.

Ianthe Hoskins gave us a much appreciated seminar on *The Key to Theosophy* as well as a lecture on 'The Benefits of Ignorance'—both in German! Then we had lectures from Curt Berg (Living in a Purposeful Universe), Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu (Glimpses into HPB's Meditation Diagram), Mary Anderson (Ways to

Perception), Marja Artamaa (Order and Creativity) and Fay van Ierlant (Working with Theosophical Literature).

The European Federation had invited guests from Czechoslovakia, Croatia, Slovenia, Russia, Hungary and Estonia, from whom we were told about the theosophical work in their respective countries. It was a wonderful week and about 50 participants had the opportunity to make friends with Theosophists from many European countries, to listen to profound lectures, to join the lively discussions and last but not the least to enjoy the warm-hearted hospitality of 'House Sanitas'.

MRS MARGARET LAUPPERT  
*General Secretary*

**BELGIUM**

During the period the work of the eight branches (four in Brussels, four in provincial towns) went on normally. The number of members remained practically unchanged, rising from 133 to 135.

The work of the provincial branches has improved in earnestness and intensity, attracting more sympathizers from the general public. In Brussels, on the contrary, there was a diminution of attendance in study groups and public lectures, in comparison with previous years, in spite of the pains taken by the organizers. Nevertheless, the lectures were more purposeful than in previous years, centred essentially on the study of religions and philosophies, and more often given by TS members than before.

Prof. P. Krishna was invited for one

week in March by the Krishnamurti Committee in which members of the Belgian Section play an important role. He gave a public lecture at the TS in Brussels in English with French translation on 'Education for Universal Moral Values'. The wisdom of his words and his simplicity were highly appreciated, and a very old member, an artist, declared that if we had five lecturers like him every year, the Belgian Section would flourish again!

Five of our members, young and old, stayed at Adyar one to three months, three of them participating in the School of the Wisdom.

DR H. VAN DER HECHT  
*General Secretary*

**BRAZIL**

The Section concentrated its work during the year on the preparation of the World Congress in July 1993. The summer school and winter seminar did not take place.

The General Secretary and Vice-President visited many cities in the Section, giving talks to the public and to the members. Several other speakers also toured various lodges. Our publishing house published seven books during the year. There were three issues of the

magazine *O Teosofista*, also quarterly Newsletters. Headquarters activities included constant contact with the members, lodges and groups, manned by a staff of four persons. Book sales continued to be satisfactory.

The TOS is active in several cities, particularly in Brasilia, Porto Alegre, Sao Paulo and Belem.

MR ULISSES RIEDEL DE RESENDE  
*General Secretary*

**CHILE**

No report

**COLOMBIA**

Report not received on time

## CUBA

The activities of the Cuban Section were more difficult during the last year due to transportation and other problems. Many members have to walk long distances to attend the meetings. Also, most of our meetings are only during week-ends, including theosophical anniversaries like Adyar Day. Our annual convention was held 23-24 January 1993.

Even in the present situation we are spreading the light of Theosophy, inspiring and helping little groups of persons, including one in the extreme west of the country. Dues to Adyar are credited to a reserve fund as we are unable to send the same.

DRA. LELIA FERNANDEZ PAGOLA  
*General Secretary*

## ENGLAND

This has been a year of consolidation after the extensive changes which took place last year. A new administrative infrastructure is now in place, and from this stable base we will be able to move ahead strongly in the core work of public outreach.

*Foundation for Theosophical Studies*

Our fledgling Charity has got off to a good start and has sponsored two events during this period. The first was our stand at the Festival for Mind, Body and Spirit held in London at the end of May. For the first time this was a ten-day event as opposed to five. This somewhat taxed our human resources but none the less was very successful. We tripled our book sales, and sold a higher percentage of theosophical classics than in past years. We will be back next year.

The second event was this year's Summer School at Leicester university. This was opened to the public but, alas, few responded to our advertisements. However the event was deemed to be a great success with much higher attendances than of late. By popular demand the emphasis shifted away from lectures in

favour of more detailed study. This pattern will be continued for the next few years.

We are planning a pilot project of high profile events for the public to be held at Tekels Park and in London, to be staged later next year.

We are in the process of shifting the work of the Library and the Publicity departments to the Foundation.

The process of putting the membership records on computer has now been completed. We have recently bought computer hardware and software which will allow us to do our own Desk Top Publishing. We expect major savings in the area of typesetting of both the Journal and other publicity and advertising materials.

*The National Lecturers scheme*

This scheme is under the auspices of the Foundation, and is intended to help lodges and centres stage public meetings. They may choose speakers from an agreed list of lecturers, and in turn the Foundation will underwrite costs of the speaker and of publicity.

We have extended the number and range of events held at Headquarters.

These have included a regular Saturday workshop programme aimed at first time enquirers, which has been well attended. During November and December we have held a series of sessions on ecological issues.

Two new lodges have been formed within the year. There has also been an ongoing programme of Federation events

and conferences, all of which have been well attended. The National Lecturers' scheme should help further promote the public outreach work in the lodges.

We look forward to 1994 with eager anticipation.

MR ADAM WARCUP  
*General Secretary*

## FINLAND

We celebrated the eighty-fifth anniversary of the TS in Finland in the great hall of the University of Helsinki, attended by about 300 members and friends from around the country. The guest speaker was Mr Dimitri Spivak from St. Petersburg. The General Secretary Kirsti Elo gave a speech on the history of the TS in Finland from 1907. It was an occasion for brotherliness and trust for the future.

We have 20 lodges and 490 members. The annual meeting was held in Helsinki 10-11 April 1993. Public lectures have been organized in Helsinki on every Sunday during the winter time. In summer the lectures were held every second Sunday. In the countryside lectures were held once or twice a month.

The Summer School in Kreivila 25 June to 2 July 1993, was on the theme 'Theosophy—Creativity—Practice', with Dr Angel Rubio, General Secretary for Spain, as guest speaker. He gave five lectures on 'Wisdom and Life'. Workshops and discussions as well as other talks supplemented each other. Includ-

ing a few visitors from Estonia, Sweden and the U.S.A., the number attending the school was about 110.

In November 1992 we organized a seminar in St. Petersburg, Russia with the European Federation. Twenty-four of our members attended the Seminar. Two of our members attended the School of the Wisdom at Adyar and the General Secretary and Ms Eeva Hippula attended the World Congress in Brasilia.

Finally we succeeded in publishing in Finnish *The Index of The Secret Doctrine* during the year. Mrs Pirkko Carpelan worked for two and a half years on its translation, and its publication was made possible with help from the Non-English Publications Fund of the TS. The journal *Teosofi* is issued six times a year. Our modernization programme is going ahead with a new printer and computer as well as a telefax in our headquarters. This will help future expansion of work.

MRS KIRSTI ELO  
*General Secretary*

## FRANCE

The new General Secretary, Prof. Chon-Ton Phan, took office on 1-1-1993, succeeding Mrs Françoise Caracostea. He visited several upcountry lodges during the year.

We have 707 members (including those from Africa) and 28 lodges, not all equally active, but some very active. Meetings at the Headquarters included public lectures on first and third Sundays on various

subjects. Also held were an introductory course on Theosophy for beginners, a course on self-culture, and another on the Mahatma Letters. Our magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* was published regularly; we now have adopted thematic issues at times (the first on the Grail).

A Meditation retreat was held in October 1992 lead by Jeanine Miller; seminars were held on Understanding Theosophy, Basic Theosophy, and Constitution of Man. A session for the training of theosophical workers was held 29-30 May 1993 in Marseille, lead by Diana and Michel Chapotin and Chon-Ton Phan. Dr Yves Marcel was guest speaker

in Australia and New Zealand; Mrs Diana Chapotin-Dunningham in New Zealand and the U.S. for a session at Krotana, and Prof. C. T. Phan in Italy, U.S. and Canada.

Some of our members attended the World Congress in Brasilia, the Naarden Seminar, the Italian summer school and the German-speaking summer school. The Committee for Assistance to Eastern Europe has been very active. Thousands of books in Russian have been printed and sent to Russia.

PROF. C. T. PHAN  
*General Secretary*

## GERMANY

The work of lodges and study-groups continued intensively. Beside introductory courses for new members public talks were delivered. The books most studied in addition to *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Mahatma Letters* were works by HPB, Joy Mills and Norbert Lauppert. The executive committee of the German Section issues introductory letters on Theosophy to section members not able to participate in lodge meetings. These letters are sent on a monthly basis for one year, giving members living in distant places the opportunity to acquaint themselves with Theosophy and thus the incentive to study it. The North- and South-German study gatherings taking place in the spring and autumn every year, originally introduced for section members to have opportunities to meet, are well attended; even members of lodges frequent these week-end seminars.

The contacts started in 1991 to establish theosophical group work in the former East Germany have so far not

succeeded. In Erfurt the response after the first public talks could not be repeated. New hope is set on a member who has moved from West Germany to Wittenberg and who is keen to start a theosophical group there.

The seventh German language School for Theosophy at Michelstadt/Odenwald united 18 participants from October 15 to 19, 1992. The 'Adyar' Publishing House published *At the Feet of the Master, Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy, Practical Occultism, The Voice of the Silence* and *The Doctrine of the Heart*. A reprint of *The Mahatma Letters* is planned.

As an item of historical interest, it is now known that the written heritage of Dr Hubbe-Schleiden, the founder of the first TS lodge in Germany, left at the University of Gottingen Library is now being sorted out and it contains much evidence of the relationship with Dr Rudolf Steiner.

The German summer school took place at St. Martin from July 29 to August 4,

1993. More than 80 attended, and enjoyed presentations with the main theme 'Paths of Realization'. Guest of honour was Dr Yves Marcel from France. Barbro Melander pointed out that 'galaxies and human consciousness originate from the same source.' Further talks given by Michael Stemmer, Mary Anderson and other members of the German Section rounded off the programme.

A special feature of the evening presentations was the showing of the video about H. P. Blavatsky produced by the British Blavatsky Trust. The wording was spoken in German language, a pains-

taking work undertaken by a German member. During the summer school the Annual General Meeting took place where Ger Baron von der Osten Sacken was elected new General Secretary. A new lodge 'Raja' was founded at Solingen with 12 new members in the meantime. Fortunately for us, new members who have joined our section during the course of the year are almost all of younger age, so that the big age gap is slowly levelling out. The membership stands at 249.

MR GER BARON VON DER OSTEN-SACKEN  
*General Secretary*

### GREECE

No report

### ICELAND

Report not received on time

### INDIA

Special programmes all over the country to commemorate the Centenary of Dr Annie Besant's arrival in India were the highlight of the Section's work during the year. Many lodges, all Federations, the Section headquarters, the Benares Hindu University and the Vasanta College for Women of the Krishnamurti Foundation held commemorative functions. Public meetings with prominent citizens as speakers were organized in major cities like Calcutta, Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Madras and Delhi. Other functions included symposia, seminars, essay competitions, elocution contests for students, study camps, publication of special issues of journals and brochures. Themes important to her, namely character building and education, responsible citizenship for rule of law,

freedom with dignity for women, moral and ethical values for national reconstruction, and brotherhood of religions were highlighted at the various functions. The aim was to help slow down the forces of disharmony and conflict and help to create a nobler and more harmonious social environment heralding new beginnings.

All India Radio and national television broadcast several programmes. There was extensive coverage both in the national and local press on Dr Besant's contribution to the freedom and regeneration of India. The Films Division of the Government of India prepared a seventeen-minute feature on her to be shown in theatres all over India. Two photographic exhibitions were organized.

The membership of the Indian Section

continues to be the biggest, with 10,641 members in 458 lodges and centres. For propagation of Theosophy nine national lecturers were appointed from the names recommended by the Federations. The International President and Vice-President presided over the annual conferences of several federations. I visited 14 lodges in eight federations. The visits helped to meet the members; interaction gave a sense of their ideas, hopes and concerns. Members want more books translated in regional languages. There were several suggestions about organizational matters at the lodge and federation levels.

Several study camps were held as usual, including those at Bhowali and at the Section headquarters. The International President directed the latter, in 15 sessions on the book *An Approach to Reality* by N. Sri Ram. Gujarat Federation held a youth camp.

The bookshop at the Section headquarters stocks and sells more than 200 English and over forty Hindi editions of theosophical books. It also makes available other publications on religion, philosophy and spiritual life. It is proposed to publish two Hindi translations during the coming year—*Human Regeneration* and *In the Outer Court*. The Hindi translations

of several other publications are also proposed to be reprinted. Several Federations also have published books in regional languages.

Computerization of membership records was introduced during the year. We are updating the mailing list for the *Indian Theosophist*, now being sent to some 6,000 members.

A long-term integrated plan is being drawn up by the Section for effective propagation of Theosophy by strengthening federations and lodges and various departments at the headquarters. Visit to remote lodges, induction of experienced workers, and constant search and training of potential workers are parts of the plan. We need more active and devoted workers to implement the plan.

Protection of environment and ecology is the concern of the world today. My predecessor popularized 'Beauty Without Cruelty'. It is now proposed to enlarge the scope and focus on the theme 'This living earth belongs to us all'. Let us protect it for the very survival of humanity and as a beautiful symbol of unity in diversity.

MR M. P. SINGHAL  
General Secretary

## INDONESIA

The Annual Congress was held in Bandung 20-22 May 1993 on the theme 'Through Wisdom towards Perfection' and was attended by 94 members from 12 of the 15 lodges. Beside the main theme, an introduction to Theosophy and the T.S. in Indonesia was presented to the public, including local government officials and prominent people. A feature of the Congress was an exhibition of

'Theosophical Journals through the Years' organized by two lodges, including early numbers of *Lucifer* and *The Theosophist*. The exhibition was much appreciated. Bro. Matius Ali gave a talk on his attendance at the School of the Wisdom at Adyar.

A 'Lodge Handbook' similar to the one published by the T.S. in America is under preparation.

Young members continue to be active. The Youth Section in Surabaya launched its own monthly newsletter. They organize weekly meetings. A 'study recreation' session attracted 24 participants from eight lodges.

Seven theosophical manuals were trans-

lated and made available to lodges with the help of a \$1,500 donation from the Australian Section. *Reincarnation* and *The Astral Plane* are under preparation to be ready for the coming Congress.

MR H. M. SOESISWO  
General Secretary

## ITALY

The work in the Italian Section went on regularly during the year. We now have 890 members in 49 lodges. Our journal *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* was published regularly every month and has a circulation of 1,100 copies.

The 79th National Convention was held at the end of May with about sixty participants on the theme 'Religion and Religiosity'. Guest speakers were Mrs Audoin and Miss Kim Dieu. In March we held a weekend at Bari with Mr Curt Berg, Mrs Audoin and Miss Kim Dieu. The General Secretary lectured at Milan, Florence, Udine and Castrocara. Book sale was also good with the collaboration of Mr Romiti, a member of the Executive Council, who owns a publishing house at Turin.

The Summer School of Pays Latin was held at Bellaria (Rimini) from 2-9

September with about sixty members from France, Belgium and Italy, less than expected. Guest speakers were Mrs Audoin and Miss Kim Dieu.

To check the lapsing of many members each year, it is necessary to give a new look for popularizing Theosophy in such a way that the people unable to grasp its spiritual meaning may at least have a clear idea about it. The new members (and perhaps the lapsed ones) expect to hear what is Theosophy and what importance it has, but in the Lodges often one speaks of everything except Theosophy and so people are not informed rightly about it and its work for peace and brotherhood which need a philosophical basis that only Theosophy can explain.

MR EDOARDO BRATINA  
General Secretary

## MEXICO

Weekly public lectures with good attendance continued in Mexico City, Puebla and Tijuana. Basic courses on Theosophy were conducted in Mexico City, Puebla and Guadalajara. The Inter-American Federation sponsored a three-day Winter School of Theosophy directed by two guest speakers, Dolores Gago from Uruguay and Alfredo Puig from

Cuba, with an attendance of 120 members. A course on *The Secret Doctrine* was started at the National Headquarters and the city of Cuernavaca in June 1993 and both had good attendance.

A delegation of 24 members attended the World Congress in Brasilia. A new magazine, *Atma Vidya*, is issued quarterly

and 1,000 copies distributed in the Mexican Section and other Spanish-speaking areas. The first two issues were devoted primarily to HPB's writings. An intensive workshop on 'HPB and *The Secret Doctrine*' will be held at our 75th annual

convention in November 1993. We now have 283 members in 15 branches, 6 study centres and 16 members-at-large.

MR CARLOS LOPEZ CERDAN RIPOLL  
*General Secretary*

## MYANMAR (BURMA)

No report

## NETHERLANDS

The Dutch summer school was held at Naarden 27-30 August, with Mr Adam Warcup as guest speaker and forty members attending, when all lectures and discussions were translated. Another summer school 18-20 June was on the theme 'Universal Compassion and Ecological Necessity' when Dr Henryk Skolimowski was guest speaker.

Two meetings were held with Lodge committees—in October 1992 and February 1993—to strengthen contact between lodges and the national board. All aspects of the work were discussed. As usual two regional conventions were held—one for the Northern on 20th September and the other for the Southern on 27th September. About thirty members at-

tended. In addition to public lectures several lodges held study groups using standard theosophical books.

Membership now totals 596. At the members' meeting in May the undersigned was elected General Secretary. We published during the year Ianthe Hoskins's *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy* and a brochure *Ecofilosofie* by Dr Henryk Skolimowski. Translation of Anna Lemkow's book *The Wholeness Principle* is nearing completion.

The Section's bi-monthly magazine has a special theme for every issue. Improvements were made in the work of the library.

MS ALI RITSEMA  
*General Secretary*

## NEW ZEALAND

The New Year Family Camp 28 December-5 January attracted forty persons. The native bush surrounding the venue helped to give us a feeling of getting away from it all in a joyous, fraternal company. The fourteenth Easter Camp was attended by 42 people. The highlight was the all-day trip to Mt Tarawera where some campers climbed the mountain and made it back again. Some interesting discussions provided food for thought.

The Annual Convention at Dunedin had as Guest Speaker Mr Pedro Oliveira, the International Secretary. It was an enjoyable event. Joy Mills conducted a week-end workshop 5-7 June on the theme 'Guidelines for the Spiritual Life.' A large group enthusiastically attended all three days, benefiting greatly from the experience. A set of six videos of this weekend was professionally prepared. Video/audio tapes and books are regularly loaned to lodges and members. Our

postal library is always well-patronized. Sixty-six new books were added to the library. *Theosophy in New Zealand*, our official organ, continues to be appreciated both at home and abroad.

Overseas speakers included Dr Yives Marcel who gave nine lectures 14-24 October 1992. Recently, Charles Werner, a visitor from Hawaii, was able to fit in some talks at a few lodges. National

Lecturer Coleen McIvor visited every lodge and study centre and in some cases more than once. Membership as of 30th September 1993 was 1,617, a decrease of 191 from the previous year. A fine team spirit enabled efficient working of the headquarters office.

MR HUGH W. DIXON

*General Secretary*

## NORWAY

There was a change of General Secretary in June and membership fell to 50 from 57 during the year. A very successful three-day seminar was held in Oslo conducted by Adam Warcup and wife. The Dharma Lodge in Oslo had through a six-month study prepared for this seminar. Some students in Bergen have interviewed a number of members for a project report on the history of the TS in Norway which is expected to be finalized in 1994.

a circulation of 150 copies. We have established a building fund to substitute the rented place for our monthly public meetings.

We are planning a seminar in June 1994 with Prof. P. Krishna from India. One of our members has stayed in Adyar during the year, another attended the World Congress in Brasilia, and a third participated in the Naarden seminar by Rohit Mehta.

MR TORSTEIN A. TOBIASSEN

*General Secretary*

Our journal is published regularly, with

## PHILIPPINES

Report not received on time

## PORTUGAL

We had a very busy year trying to improve theosophical work and to beautify the headquarters. We had public lectures and symposia every week and celebrated all theosophical anniversaries. The 'Iberian Days' in April at Fatima had as its theme 'Theosophical Concepts in Actuality'. It was a very good and fraternal gathering where Spanish and Portu-

guese members shared their theosophical experience. Our journal *Portugal Teosofico* was published regularly every quarter. Two of our members attended the Naarden seminar in July and one attended the World Congress in Brasilia.

DR MARIA G. NOBRE SANTOS

*General Secretary*

## PUERTO RICO

We have five lodges in Puerto Rico which meet weekly and one is functioning weekly in the Dominican Republic. Two study groups have been organized in the interior of our island and five study groups are meeting every week in the Dominican Republic.

Our journal *Heraldo Teosofico* is published every quarter with articles of well-known theosophical writers and col-

laborators from Puerto Rico. Six of our members attended the Eighth World Congress in Brasilia.

For the last four years we are repaying the loan incurred during the 1989 tropical hurricane Hugo which destroyed the roof of our building in San Juan.

MR MIGUEL A. CHARNECO  
*General Secretary*

## SPAIN

Section work goes on regularly thanks to the efforts of our members. We have a very active correspondence with interested persons to whom we also send our magazine *Sophia* as introduction to Theosophy. We now have 331 active members distributed in 14 lodges and 22 members-at-large. Sevilla, in the south of Spain, has a new lodge. We print 500

copies of our magazine which has 425 subscribers in Spain and several other countries, including the U.S., England and Germany. Some of our members attended the World Congress in Brasilia and the Iberian Days of Theosophy held at Fatima, Portugal, during Easter 1993.

DR ANGEL RUBIO  
*General Secretary*

## SRI LANKA

Our regular monthly meetings were attended by members and others. Outstanding guest speakers, both local and foreign, gave talks on varied subjects which have been recorded on tape. A group of members visited Ampitiya, Kandy, where they spent five days of profitable discussion, meditation and reflection in the monastery of the Benedictine monks. Three newsletters on the teachings of Theosophy were compiled and circulated among members and friends.

Sixteen new members were enrolled during the year, raising the total to 50, in eight lodges. Most activities, however,

are centred around the Besant Lodge in Colombo, followed by the Hamsa Lodge in Badulla.

Our library has benefited from gifts by well-wishers and the addition of new books as well as by the audio tapes of lectures delivered during the year.

The planned visit of Dr C. V. Agarwal, Presidential Representative for Southeast Asia, in January 1994 and Mrs Radha Burnier later in the year will give a boost to Theosophy in the Section.

MR G. J. R. SAMARASINGHE  
*General Secretary*

## SWEDEN

Six lodges have had activities including public lectures and study groups on *The Secret Doctrine* and other theosophical subjects. A seminar was held in November on *The Voice of the Silence*, in which sixteen members participated. 'Developing Brotherhood' was the theme of another seminar held in May, including talks by Barbro Melander, Ing-Britt Wiklund and others. Seventeen members participated.

Seven members attended the World Congress in Brasilia and one the seminar in Naarden. A pamphlet on HPB was published during the year, and translation of John Algeo's *Reincarnation* is ready for printing. The Section has 206 members. The turnover in the bookshop has increased. Four issues of our journal were published.

MRS ING-BRITT WIKLUND  
*General Secretary*

## SWITZERLAND

We have now five Lodges in Geneva. Our headquarters has a regular programme of public lectures (3-4 per month) for which we send notice to 3,500 people to publicize our existence. We have a course in Theosophy with classes twice a month.

lar meetings, and we are very proud to receive new young members.

In Zurich where we had no activity for a very long time, a group has been created and we hope to re-open our lodge Lotus.

At the end of 1993, we had a total of 125 members.

MME ELIANE GAILLARD  
*General Secretary*

## U. S. A.

The TS in America continues vigorously along the ways blazed by its president of the last six years, Dorothy Abbenhouse, and looks ahead to new directions under a new administration, building on past accomplishments.

The highlight of our audio-visual work this year was the completion of an hour-long video programme on 'Adyar: Home of the Theosophical Society', by Steve Schweizer. Filmed on site at Adyar, the video will be distributed worldwide.

*The Quest* magazine, under the editorship of William Metzger, is now being distributed to members of the English Section as well as the American Section and is exceeding 25,000 sales per issue. The

magazine was honoured by being nominated by the *Utne Reader* for its Alternative Press Award and enthusiastically endorsed as 'Recommended Reading'.

The Theosophical Publishing House, Wheaton, under the leadership of Betty Shimp, John White and Brenda Rosen, has continued its programme of republishing theosophical classics, the star in our crown for the past year being a paperback printing of Boris de Zirkoff's edition of *The Secret Doctrine*. In addition, we have a series of new titles by well-known contemporary authors, in artistic covers. In an effort to improve our marketing ability, we have entered into an arrangement with Atrium, a publishers

group that holds great promise for placing our publications in outlets that we have not before been able to reach.

Public lectures, seminars, workshops, and classes are offered by lodges and study centres throughout the nation, as well as at the national headquarters at Olcott. Among the Olcott programmes, the most successful and popular have been the workshops on meditation led by Dorothy Abbenhouse.

The Olcott Library and Research Centre has a new head librarian, Mrs Elisabeth Trumpler, who retired from her position in the library of Drexel University to work at Olcott.

The triennial election put the following persons into national office: President, John Algeo; First Vice-President, William Pym; Second Vice-President, Betty Bland. New District Directors are Timothy Boyd, Francisco Escudero, Amy Furnans, Roger Gemme, John Kunz, and Fernando de Torrijos. The National Secretary is Diane Eisenberg, and the National Treasurer, Austin Bee.

The 1993 Annual Meeting was held at the national headquarters, Olcott, Wheaton, Illinois, 24-27 August, on the theme 'The

Future of Religion'. The keynote speaker, who delivered the annual Founders Address on 'Theosophy and the Future of Religion', was our international President, Radha Burnier, who also led a three-day workshop on 'Human Regeneration and the Objects of the Theosophical Society'.

The centennial 1993 Parliament of the World's Religions, which immediately followed the Annual Meeting (28 August to 5 September), was cosponsored by more than 180 organizations representing the religious traditions of the world, including the Theosophical Society. The Theosophical coordinator for the Parliament was Tony Lysy, who won the gratitude and admiration of those of many religious traditions for his work with the young people's programme and for promoting interfaith networking. The Parliament included 24 Theosophical presentations, highlighted by an address by Radha Burnier on 'Self-Transformation and the Future of Religion'.

We look ahead from a year of great accomplishments to a challenging new year of opportunity.

DR JOHN ALGEO  
*General Secretary*

## URUGUAY

During the past year theosophical work in Uruguay went on as usual. We held an introductory course on Theosophy during the year. Also, from 15 May to 12 June 1993 there was a course on 'The Science of Meditation'. We air a regular weekly programme over the radio called

'New Humanity'. There are 77 members in five active lodges in Montevideo. Following the resignation of Dr David Bachini in September, the undersigned was elected as General Secretary.

MS THELMA CESTAU  
*General Secretary*

## REPORTS OF REGIONAL SECRETARIES

### CANADIAN FEDERATION

Because Canada is such a large country, travel between lodges is difficult and expensive, and therefore much of our communication is by the written word or long-distance telephone. A big step forward in linking together our members was the restarting in the spring of our quarterly magazine under its new name *The Light Bearer*. Our major event of the year was the visit of Ianthe Hoskins in

March who gave public talks in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver and also encouraged our members by speaking to them individually. We are inviting whenever possible lecturers from the U.S.A. because of shorter distances. In October 1993 I plan to visit Vancouver with brief stopovers in Calgary and Edmonton.

MR HUGH JACKSON  
*Regional Secretary*

### IRELAND, NORTHERN

We were able to carry on our activities in Belfast unhampered by the troubles in the area. Attendance averaged twelve. The HPB video screened at our 44th annual convention and the talks by Dr Yves Marcel made the event 'most uplifting' and members felt a deep sense of fellowship. Our programme of public meetings in the form of talks, tape recordings, discussions, questions and

'forums' continued throughout the year. Books studied at members' meetings included Annie Besant's *Esoteric Christianity*, *Blavatsky and Her Teachers* by Jean Overton Fuller, *Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom—Second Series* and *The Principles of Theosophical Work* by I. K. Taimni.

MRS MARIE HENRY  
*Organizing Secretary*

### SLOVENIA

Slovenia, part of former Yugoslavia, is now a Regional Association of the TS. We returned the Charter of the Yugoslav Section to Adyar and in exchange obtained the Charter of the Slovenian Regional Association. Some Croatian members joined our lodges, but present legislation in Slovenia does not allow the membership of those non-resident foreign citizens.

We have 66 members in three lodges. Study in the lodges is based on works of Dr Taimni, the *Mahatma Letters* and articles from *The Theosophist*. Lectures are followed by discussions. As there is very little theosophical literature in Slovenian language, lecturers have to first translate their talks. Our magazine *Theosophical Thought* is published regularly and circulation is increasing. With the

help of NEPF and the CEEC *Two Books of the Stanzas of Dzyan* was published recently. *Light on the Path* is almost sold out. It is planned to publish *The Key to Theosophy*, *Chakras* and *Self-Culture*. We are urgently in need of our own pre-

mises. A photocopy machine would be extremely helpful as it would enable us to publish information about the TS, articles and books.

MR ANTON JESSE  
*Regional Secretary*

## WALES

Due to an insufficient number of lodges and members to remain as a Section, the Theosophical Society in Wales is now a Regional Association. Mr Adam Warcup, General Secretary of the English Section, had proposed formation of a British Section together with Scotland and N. Ireland, but a circular referendum among Welsh members elicited voting in favour of staying as a Regional Association in Wales.

Membership has increased over the last

year, but quite often the new members do not renew their subscriptions after the initial payment. However, many are still interested and attend our public meetings regularly. Special seminars on different aspects of Theosophy were arranged during the year as well as members' meetings and study sessions. Increased attendance has made it necessary to enlarge the meeting room. Patronage of our library has also increased.

MRS ELISE PROBERT  
*Regional Secretary*

## REPORTS OF PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES

### ASIA, SOUTH-EAST

The most active Lodge in this region is the Singapore Lodge. It holds regular meetings and sends the share of dues to Adyar. Election of Mrs Manize A. J. Sait as the President of the Lodge has given a new direction to the Lodge activities. A few of the members travelling on business to different places have helped to enrol members at various places also. The most important event was the visit of the International President to Singapore in early September 1993. An important publication is *Jewel in the Lotus*. Its artistic presentation has helped to take Theosophy to some whom traditional presentation has not influenced.

Out of three Lodges in Malaysia only Penang Lodge is functioning. There is no contact with the two erstwhile lodges on the mainland of Malaysia. No records were made available to my predecessor Bro. K. K. Tan from his predecessor. It is not known if diplomas were issued to several persons who are reported to be paying dues for some time. Due to government regulations the lodges in Malaysia have not been able to send dues. There are certain restrictions in affiliation with international organizations.

The lodge at Hong Kong has a chequered history. During the year nine persons joined. The Lodge does not

seem to be meeting regularly. However, Mr Mathew Cheng is very enthusiastically planning my visit in early November. A hall has been rented in the central part of the city for a lecture. A two-day workshop in three bungalows outside the city based on *Human Regeneration* has been announced. The Lodge is getting some books. It is hoped that the visit of the Presidential Representative will help to organize the Theosophical activities at a place of multiracial cultures and belonging to varied sects.

In Vietnam, attempts are being made to trace out descendants of TS members and to reactivate the work, but it will take some time for restarting TS activities. It may be noted that the Vietnamese Section was one of the strongest Sections of South-East Asia. A tour of the Presidential Representative in 1994 is being thought of. This should help to organize the work.

DR C. V. AGARWAL  
*Presidential Representative*

## BOLIVIA

Lodges have continued their regular work through weekly meetings where theosophical themes were studied. We held a summer school from 15-17 January 1993 with Mr and Mrs Juan Carlos Palmeri from Argentina as guest speakers. The subject was *The Secret Doctrine*. It

was attended by sixty members. There was another national gathering in Cochabamba from 6-8 August 1993 with thirty participants.

MR MARIO CARIAGA ARAMAYO  
*Presidential Representative*

## DENMARK

Our membership has increased from 20 to 39 of which 12 are in the White Lotus Lodge, the only lodge for the time being. The lodge holds two meetings every month and members study *Thoughts for Aspirants* by N. Sri Ram. We have rented premises in a central part of Copenhagen and plan to hold two public meetings a month as well as two members' meetings. A list of public lectures for 1993-94 is being circulated in advance. Among our lecturers is Tarab Tulku N. Lobsang, a Tibetan Lama at the Royal

Library in Copenhagen. Mr Curt Berg and Mrs Barbro Melander visited us and gave guidance. A joint summer-school with our Swedish friends in 1994 is considered.

After the sad interregnum of Hardy Bennis, we have received from him two paintings, some photographs, the Theosophical seal, several hundred new books for sale and a similar number for our library.

MRS EDEL SCHARSTEIN  
*Presidential Representative*

## HUNGARY

We now have 33 members working in three groups and efforts are continuing to form lodges at the earliest. Because of the more and more difficult economic and social conditions, interested persons are not able to join the TS. The three groups are studying fundamental theosophical teachings, Yoga and Meditation and held 31 meetings. Twelve lectures were given for different associations to elicit public interest in Theosophy; also three television interviews.

With help from abroad, 16 theosophical books and booklets have so far been published. Two more are in preparation. Eighteen introductory letters have been prepared and it is planned to revive the TS journal in Hungarian. The Presidential Representative attended the 1992 International Convention and the School of the Wisdom at Adyar.

MR LASZLO REICHER

*Presidential Representative*

## IRELAND, REPUBLIC OF

Although our numbers are remaining static, we have a few interested people attending our public meetings, and we hope that they eventually become members. The talks on Meditation started a year ago have proved very popular and are now being augmented by talks on Concentration. We have been studying

some aspects of *The Secret Doctrine* and will soon begin studying ways of Living the Wisdom. We have also had tapes from the Naarden seminar and a showing of the video on Madame Blavatsky.

MRS W. WOODS

*Presidential Representative*

## PAKISTAN

No report

## PERU

We have forty members in two lodges. We held three five-lecture introductory courses on Theosophy for the public during the year—October 1992 with an attendance of 12 persons; in April 1993 with seven persons and in July 1993 for 20 persons. There were seventeen public lectures which were given advance publicity in the press, radio and television; little by little we have become well known and more persons are attending them.

We had two lecturers sent by the Inter-American Federation: Mariela Lasso from Colombia and Alfredo Puig. Both visits were very fruitful. A five-day workshop on Meditation by Mariela Lasso open to the public was highly successful with an attendance of 35 persons. Two issues of our journal were published during the year and we are trying street sales of the same.

MR JULIO GERARDO POMAR

*Presidential Representative*

## SCOTLAND

The membership stands at 153; there have been 36 new members throughout the year but this has been offset by lapses and the deaths of elderly members, so the membership remains similar to the last report.

In Glasgow, an extra evening since August 1993 has been utilized for a programme by members, non-members being able to attend; this has brought new speakers to the fore, both old and new members. A Members Only evening is now being used for the book-study programme. Public lectures in Glasgow have included many visiting speakers.

Edinburgh also had a welcome return visit by Rosemary Larbalestier and were privileged to have Helen Gething (England) deliver a fine talk on Occultism

whilst she was on holiday in Edinburgh in April. Weekly members' evenings in Autumn '92 consisted of a series of talks and study groups on 'Theosophical Principles and Key Concepts'.

'Circles' has continued to be sent to members and interested enquirers, at home and abroad. Alan and Margaret Senior were invited to visit the Krotona Institute of Theosophy for the whole of April, 1993 where Alan gave a series of lectures on 'The Spiritual in Art and Music'.

The Libraries continue to be well used by members and enquirers alike; much hard work has been undertaken in all aspects of theosophical work throughout the year.

MRS MARGARET T. SENIOR  
*Presidential Representative*

## VENEZUELA

We had a 'Theosophical Brotherhood Week' from 17 November 1992 when daily meetings were held among the three lodges in Caracas and discussions centred on aspects of organization of the TS work in Venezuela. These meetings resulted in a great enthusiasm, but the work suffered at the end of the year because of the political instability in the

country and consequent restriction of movement. Activities were resumed from 15 January 1993 onwards. Ten new members were admitted and there are prospects of forming a new lodge. Efforts continue to be made to bring members together in order to strengthen the work.

MR EFRAIN ALVARES  
*Presidential Representative*

## REPORTS OF FEDERATIONS

## EUROPEAN FEDERATION

Following the Executive Committee elections last summer, our working year began with a new team. The four officials remained in office, but the Executive Committee in general is now uniformly spread all over Europe. Two seminars at

Naarden were attended by 15 friends from Eastern Europe. Several books in Russian and Slovenian were published. The Vice-Chairman and I were twice in Russia—in St. Petersburg and in Moscow. Apart from lecturing (to audiences of up

to 100 and more) and meeting various groups, we held a one-week winter seminar with 20 students. There is as yet no organization in Russia attached to our Society. Marja Artamaa travelled in the Baltic area and Mary Anderson in Slove-

nia and Croatia. There are contacts in Rumania and in the Ukraine, but no activity has developed there so far. In Poland and in Eastern Germany there is as yet no reliable contact.

MR CURT BERG  
*Chairman*

## INDO-PACIFIC FEDERATION

Report not received on time

## INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

At the request of the Theosophical Society in Mexico, the Federation sent two speakers, Dolores Gago, from Uruguay, and Alfredo Puig, from Cuba. Both offered a training course for Theosophical workers, in the last week of November 1992. Then, both speakers travelled visiting and lecturing at Theosophical lodges throughout Mexico, during the first fortnight of December 1992.

Also with an invitation from the Theosophical Society in Chile, Dolores Gago delivered lectures at Santiago de Chile.

Since the main effort of the Federation was to promote attendance at the 8th World Congress of the Theosophical Society, Alfredo Puig visited Peru, Colombia and Costa Rica, from April to June 1993.

A group of workers, under the leadership of Ulisses Riedel de Resende, as President, and Ricardo Lindemann, as Secretary, for the Federation, joined their efforts in the many aspects of preparation for the Congress. Pedro Oliveira, International Secretary, travelled from Adyar to Brasilia, late in June, to join this group. Also helped with translations, amongst others, Dolores Gago and Alfredo Puig.

Prior to the Congress (July 23) the Federation held a meeting in which many important resolutions were approved. Since there is a fair pace in the translation and printing of books in Portuguese, now an effort will also be made to do the same to help with Theosophical books in Spanish, with the coordination of all Sections. The T.P.H. in Brasilia will prepare all necessary materials. Another of the items was the decision to print *The Theosophical Digest* in Portuguese and Spanish, in coordination with the Indo-Pacific Federation.

The Congress took place from July 24 to 31 1993, presided by our International President, Mrs Radha Burnier. The attendance at the Congress was 520 and there were more than 30 representatives from different countries.

During September 1993, Alfredo Puig visited the Theosophical Society in Colombia, where the seven workshops of the Congress were presented in Bogotá.

Alfredo Puig has been appointed new Secretary for the Inter-American Theosophical Federation.

MR ULISSES RIEDEL DE RESENDE  
*President*

## REPORTS OF LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

### COMILLA (BANGLADESH)

No report

### HONG KONG

No report

### TEL-AVIV (ISRAEL)

Three introductory and three advanced courses were held in our new centre in Tel-Aviv during the year. Two one-day seminars were held—one in October 1992 with about 170 participants, and the second in April 1993 with 120 persons. We advertise the public lectures and get an attendance of 50-80. Members weekly meetings studied *Raja Yoga* by Wallace Slater and also various themes from *The*

*Secret Doctrine*. We finalized translation of *The Voice of the Silence* and revised the translation of *At the Feet of the Master* which we hope to print soon. A new translation under way is *Practical Occultism* by Madame Blavatsky. The 25th issue of our magazine *Or (Light)* was distributed in September. We now have 37 members.

MR ABRAHAM ORON  
*President, Covenant Lodge*

### JAPAN

I cannot work actively for Theosophy for the last several years because of rheumatoid arthritis involving three years of hospitalization. We have three lodges now—Nippon Lodge, Osaka Lodge, and Nagoya Lodge. Nippon Lodge held monthly meetings till last year, but after the departure of Jeff Clark, we hold lecture meetings only four times a year. We had a special meeting on 18 September 1993 addressed by Dr C. V. Agarwal from India, whose nice talk on the pur-

pose of Theosophy was very useful. Osaka Lodge is studying the series by A. E. Powell. Nagoya Lodge holds monthly meetings under the leadership of Mr Ieda. I gave a talk there on April 11 on 'Seven Principles of Man' according to HPB's teaching.

We republished some theosophical books during the year.

MRS EMIKO TANAKA  
*President, Nippon Lodge*

### KOREA

No report

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# DIRECTORY

Executive Members of the General Council

President: Mrs. RAGDA BHASKAR

Vice-President: Mr. KUNJAYYA BHASKAR

Secretary: Mr. P. R. M. GOWDER

Treasurer: Mr. D. K. GOWDER

National, Regional, District, and Local Associations

Address

General Secretary

General Secretary

## DIRECTORY

AND

## MINUTES

OF THE MEETINGS OF THE

GENERAL COUNCIL

# DIRECTORY

## *Ex-Officio Members of the General Council*

**President:** MRS RADHA BURNIER

**Vice-President:** MR SURENDRA NARAYAN

**Secretary:** MR PEDRO R. M. OLIVEIRA

**Treasurer:** MR D. K. GOVINDARAJ

## National Societies, Regional Associations and Presidential Agencies

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr Bhupendra R. Vora	... 55A Third Avenue, Parklands, P.O. Box 48507, Nairobi, Kenya
1909	Africa, South	... Mr T. G. Davis	... 22, Buffels Road, Rietondale 0084, Pretoria
1956	Africa, West	... Mr P. B. Kwakyi	... P.O. Box 720, Accra, Ghana
1929	America, Central	... Miss Carmen Aguilar Alvarez...	3a Calle 5-25 Zona 2 Guatemala
1920	Argentina	... Miss Silvia Blajer	... Pje Florencio Balcarce 71, 1405 Buenos Aires
1990	Asia, South-East †	... Dr C. V. Agarwal	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010, India
1895	Australia	... Miss Joy Mills	... 4th Flr., 484 Kent St., Sydney, N.S.W. 2000
1912	Austria	... Mrs Margaret Lauppert	... Postfach 655, A—8011, Graz
1911	Belgium	... Dr H. van der Hecht	... 166, Rue de la Cambre, 1200 Brussels
1965	Bolivia †	... Mr Mario Cariaga Aramayo	... Casilla 2083, La Paz
1920	Brazil	... Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende...	Sociedade Teosofica no Brazil, SGAS—Quadra 603, No. 20, CEP 70200-630 Brasilia (DF)
1924	Canada*	... Mr Hugh Jackson	... 158, Crescent Rd. (Apt. 311) Toronto, Ont. Canada M4W 1V2
1920	Chile	... Mr Carlos Ramirez Lohaus	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1937	Colombia	... Miss Mariela Lasso Salas	... Carrera 6, No. 56-40, Bogota 2
1905	Cuba	... Dra Lelia Fernandez Pagola	... Lombillo, No. 634, Apartado de Correos, No. 6365, La Habana
1918	Denmark †	... Mrs Edel Scharstein	... Nr. Sogade 9B, 2.th., 1370 Copenhagen K.
1888	England	... Mr Adam Warcup	... 50, Gloucester Place, London W1H 3HJ
1907	Finland	... Mrs Kirsti Elo	... Vironkatu 7c2, 00170, Helsinki 17
1899	France	... Prof. C. T. Phan	... 4, Square Rapp, 75007 Paris
1902	Germany	... Ger Baron v.d. Osten-Sacken	... Freiligrath-Ring 6, D-40878 Ratingen
1928	Greece	... Mr P. Adjakas	... 25, Voukourestiou Street, 106 71-Athens
1907	Hungary †	... Mr Laszlo Reicher	... Bajesy-Zsilinszky ut 51, H-1065 Budapest VI

1921	Iceland	... Mr Einar Adalsteinsson	... P.O. Box 1257, Ingolfsstraeti 22, 121 Reykjavik
1891	India	... Mr M. P. Singhal	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010
1912	Indonesia	... Mr H.M. Soesiswo	... Jalan Oto Iskandardinata III/ G. 336, Jatinegara, Jakarta 13340, Timur
1949	Ireland, Northern*	... Mrs Marie Henry	... 30, Hillsborough Drive Off Woodstock Road Belfast BT 69 DS
1919	Ireland, Rep. of †	... Mrs W. Woods	... 31, Pembroke Road, Dublin 4
1902	Italy	... Mr Edoardo Bratina	... via E. Toti 3, Post Box 1252 34131 Trieste
1919	Mexico	... Mr Carlos Lopez Cerdan Ripoll	... Ignacio Mariscal 126 Col. Tabacalera C. P. 06470 Mexico 1, D.F.
1897	Netherlands	... Ms Ali Ritsema	... Tolstraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam
1896	New Zealand	... Mr Hugh Dixon	... 18, Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 3
1913	Norway	... Mr Torstein A. Tobiassen	... P.O. Box 2889, Toyen, 0608 Oslo 6
1948	Pakistan †	... Mrs Gool K. Minwalla	... 8, Mary Road, Bath Island, Karachi 75600
1924	Peru †	... Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	... Jr. Republica de Portugal 152, Brena, Lima
1933	Philippines, The	... Mr Vicente Haó Chin, jun.	... Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City
1921	Portugal	... Dr Maria G. Nobre Santos	... Campo Martires da Pátria 69, r/c-Dto., Lisbon 1
1925	Puerto Rico	... Mr Miguel A. Charneco	... Apartado 36-1766 Correo General, San Juan, 00936—1766.
1910	Scotland †	... Mrs Margaret T. Senior	... 12, Granary Park, Rafford, by Forres, Morayshire, IV 36 OJZ
1992	Slovenia *	... Mr Anton Jesse	... Kremzarjeva 24, 61000 Ljubljana
1921	Spain	... Dr Angel Rubio	... Pau Claris, 77, 3º, 1ª, 08010 Barcelona
1926	Sri Lanka	... Mr G. J. R. Samarasingha	... 24/A Shady Grove Av., Colombo 8
1895	Sweden	... Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	... Kalle Posts vag 48, S-702 29 Orebro
1910	Switzerland	... Mme Eliane Gaillard	... 17, Ch. de la Côte, CH-1282, Dardagny, Genève
1886	United States of America	... Dr John Algeo	... P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois 60189-0270
1925	Uruguay	... Ms Thelma Cestau	... Javier Barrios Amorin 1085, Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo
1953	Venezuela †	... Mr Efrain Alvares	... Apartado 2907, Caracas
1922	Wales *	... Mrs Elise T. Probert	... 25 'Clarendon', Cyncoed Ave., Cardiff CF2 6TJ

**The Council of the European Federation of National Societies**

*Chairman:* Mr Curt Berg, Sparrisbacken 63, S-165 61, Hasselby, Sweden

**Inter-American Theosophical Federation**

*President:* Mr Ulisses Resende, SGAS—Quadra 603, No. 20, CEP 70.200, Brasilia (DF), Brazil

**Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation**

*President:* Mr V. Haó Chin, jun, Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City, The Philippines

**World Theosophical Youth Federation**

*Secretary:* Mrs Marina V. Lenz Cesar, Caixa Postal 10360, Porto Alegre, 90000 Brazil

\* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

**Additional Members of the General Council**

MRS GOOL K. MINWALLA, 8, Mary Road, Bath Island, Karachi - 75600, Pakistan  
(for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

DR HUGH SHEARMAN, 623 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3LQ UK.  
(for 1993, 1994 and 1995)

MRS NORMA Y. SASTRY, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600 020, India  
(for 1994, 1995 and 1996)

MR S. S. VARMA, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600 020, India  
(for 1993, 1994 and 1995)

MR WALTER BALLESTEROS, Carrera 6, No. 56-40 Bogota-2, Colombia  
(for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

MR CURT BERG, Sparrisbacken 63, S-165 61, Hässelby, Sweden (for 1993, 1994 and 1995)

MR CONRAD JAMIESON, 1/209, Manukau Road, Epsom, Auckland 3, New Zealand  
(for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

MISS TRAN-THI-KIM-DIEU, 67, Rue des Pommiers, 45000 Orleans, France (for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

MR GUIDO HAAS, International Theosophical Centre, Valkeveenselaan 19, 1411 GT Naarden, The Netherlands (for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

MISS IANTHE HOSKINS, 37 Victoria Hill Road, Hextable, Swanley, Kent BR8 7LL, England  
(for 1993, 1994 and 1995)

MISS MARY ANDERSON, Hauensteinstrasse 114, CH-4059 Basle, Switzerland  
(for 1993, 1994 and 1995)

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## MINUTES

### *Of the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held on 25 December 1993 at Adyar*

#### PRESENT

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for West Africa, Cuba, Brazil, Italy and Belgium</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Chile, East and Central Africa and Puerto Rico</i>
Mr Pedro R. M. Oliveira	<i>Secretary and proxy for Indonesia, Mexico, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Mr Walter Ballesteros</i>
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Acting Treasurer</i>
Miss Joy Mills	<i>General Secretary, Australia and proxy for Sweden, Uruguay, England and Holland</i>
Mr M. P. Singhal	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Mr C. T. Phan	<i>General Secretary, France</i>
Mrs Eliane Gaillard	<i>General Secretary, Switzerland</i>
Miss Ianthe Hoskins	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Portugal and Spain</i>
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Germany and Austria</i>
Miss Tran-Thi-Kim Dieu	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Mr Curt Berg</i>
Mr Conrad Jamieson	<i>Additional Member and proxy for New Zealand</i>
Mrs Gool Minwalla	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mrs Norma Y. Sastry	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr S. S. Varma	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr Guido Haas	<i>Additional Member</i>

#### *Present by invitation as Observers:*

Dr C. V. Agarwal, South-East Asia  
Mrs Wies Kuiper, Holland

The President extended a warm welcome to the members of the General Council and observers present.

#### **1. Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the General Council held at Adyar on 25 December 1992, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed.

## 2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

### (a) *Denmark*

The President reported that the case before the Appellate Court was lost and, in spite of all evidence to the contrary, the judges held that the TS in Denmark was not a part of the International Society. Therefore, all the properties remain in the possession of the Association to which they were transferred. Mr Hardy Bennis has returned some books, portraits and photographs. Mr Curt Berg and Mrs Barbro Melander are helping the workers in Denmark to develop the activities. Public lectures and study courses have been organized in a rented hall in Copenhagen and the membership is growing slowly.

### (b) *Wales*

Following the decision of the General Council, the President withdrew the charter of the Welsh Section and certified the TS in Wales as a Regional Association.

### (c) *Canada*

Miss Ianthe Hoskins reported on her visit which was found very useful and stimulating for the members there. The Federation's membership is increasing and the work is progressing satisfactorily.

### (d) *Greece*

Miss Mary Anderson reported on her recent visit. Her lectures were well received. The Section is finding the apartment in Athens a financial burden. The Secretary reported that the General Secretary has not been corresponding with Adyar, sending Annual Reports, or paying dues.

### (e) *Former Yugoslavia*

The work in Slovenia is proceeding normally. Miss Mary Anderson reported that in Zagreb and elsewhere in Croatia groups are functioning, but the theosophical spirit of freedom of enquiry and brotherhood is either absent or misinterpreted. It was decided to postpone formation of Lodges in these places.

While reviewing the work in the above-mentioned Sections, the Council was of the view that among the minimum requirements for a National Section to be recognized as such by the International Society, is the sending of the Annual Report by the General Secretary and payment of dues. If there are difficulties in sending money abroad, dues should be set aside in a separate fund for future remittance to Adyar. Remission of fees to members should be borne by the concerned Lodges or Sections.

## 3. Confirmation of Voting

### (a) *Amendment to Rule 21(b)*

The following amendment to Rule 21(b) had been circulated for voting (changes in italics):

The funds of the Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public Securities, Unit Trust of India, Term Deposits in scheduled banks, fixed

deposits and bonds of Government of India undertakings *and other categories of investments permitted under Section 11(5) of the Income Tax Act 1961*, or in the purchase of immovable property or first mortgages in such property.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
38	—	—	—	38

Having received the required number of votes, the amendment was declared adopted.

(b) *Amendment to Rule 21(d)*

The following amendment to Rule 21(d) had been circulated for voting (changes in italics):

The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other public securities, *or investments permitted under Section 11(5) of the Income Tax Act, 1961* or any movable or immovable property of the Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21(c).

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
38	—	—	—	38

(c) *Election of Treasurer*

The President had nominated Mr D. K. Govindaraj as Treasurer under Rule 13 of the Rules and Regulations.

The voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
37	—	1	—	38

Mr D. K. Govindaraj was declared elected as Treasurer of the Theosophical Society for the years 1994, 1995 and 1996.

(d) *Election of Additional Member for the years 1994, 1995 and 1996*

The President had nominated Mrs Norma Y. Sastry under Rule 2(b) of the Rules and Regulations as an Additional Member of the General Council.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
37	—	1	—	38

Mrs Norma Y. Sastry was declared elected as an Additional Member of the General Council for the years 1994, 1995 and 1996.

#### 4. Report of the Non-English Publications Fund Committee for the year ending 30 September 1993

The report for the year ending 30 September 1993, which had been previously circulated, was presented by the Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan. Grants had been

made to the Committee for Eastern European Countries for bringing out Russian translations of *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Ancient Wisdom* and *An Outline of Theosophy*; to the Swedish Section for a Swedish translation of John Algeo's book *Reincarnation Explored*; and to the Finnish Section for a Finnish translation of *The Masters and the Path* and publication of an Index to *The Secret Doctrine*.

#### 5. Report of the International Finance Committee

The Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan, presented the report of the International Finance Committee for the year ending 30 September 1993.

#### 6. Report of the Executive Committee for the year ending 30 September 1993

Salient points from the minutes of the Executive Committee were presented. Miss Joy Mills suggested that a plaque be put in the renovated Community Kitchen as it has historical associations.

The following were appointed as members of the Executive Committee for 1994:

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-President</i>
Mr Pedro R. M. Oliveira	<i>Secretary</i>
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mrs Norma Y. Sastry	<i>General Council Member</i>
Mr S. S. Varma	“ “ “
Mr K. Visvanathan	

#### 7. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 1993

The Treasurer's Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 1993, which had been previously circulated, were considered. It was noted that the financial position of the Society is satisfactory and the report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

The President expressed her gratitude to the General Secretary, Switzerland, and the National President, Australia, for their offer of help to the Olcott Memorial School, which will complete 100 years of valuable service to the poor in 1994. Miss Joy Mills requested that the report/accounts of the Olcott Education Society be made available to the members of the General Council.

It was recommended that the T.P.H. should send the Adyar Library publications catalogue to the Sections; and that Bhojanasala rates for non-members be increased.

#### 8. Budget for the year ending 31 March 1995

The budget for the year ending 31 March 1995, which had been previously circulated, was considered and adopted unanimously.

#### 9. Auditors for the year ending 31 March 1995

Messrs Fraser and Ross were appointed as auditors of the Theosophical Society for the year ending 31 March 1995 on the same terms and conditions as before.

#### 10. Work around the World

##### (a) *Member in Good Standing*

The President gave an account of the problems that have arisen in interpreting Rule 29(e), which says that no member in good standing for less than two years shall

have the right to vote in an election. After discussion, it was decided that an amendment to the rule should be circulated for voting, clarifying that two years signify 24 consecutive months.

*(b) Safeguarding of Properties*

The President reported on the replies to her circular letter to Council members regarding TS property. It was the consensus that wherever TS properties are administered by a Property Trust, the General Secretary and Treasurer of the concerned Section should be members, and the other trustees should have been members of the TS for at least five consecutive years.

It was also decided that a list of the essential elements to be incorporated in the rules of Sections and Lodges should be drawn up.

Senior counsels in Ireland had recommended that the powers and functions of Presidential Representatives should be more clearly defined in the Rules and Regulations of the TS. It was decided to examine this question also and propose necessary amendments.

The Council meeting was adjourned to 1-1-1994 at 8.00 a.m.

## MINUTES

### *Of the Adjourned meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held at Adyar on Saturday, 1 January 1994 at 8 a.m.*

#### PRESENT

All the Council members present at the meeting held on 25 December 1993 with the exception of Mme Eliane Gaillard, General Secretary for Switzerland.

#### 10. Work around the World (Contd.)

##### (d) *Removal of Membership*

Rule 36(a) vests in the President the authority to issue and cancel membership diplomas. Yet every now and again a Lodge or Section assumes that authority. On the other hand, the International President risks being burdened with court cases, etc. when called upon to cancel diplomas. This matter was discussed in detail.

The Council decided that all Lodge Charters and Membership Diplomas must bear the signature of the International President. A Lodge may remove a person from membership in that Lodge (not TS membership) by due process. A Section may cancel the TS Diploma of a member after proper hearing and due procedure. But as in the case of cancellation of a Lodge Charter, an appeal should lie with the International President, and the member concerned should be made aware of the same.

Proposals are to be made to amend the Society's Rules accordingly.

##### (e) *World Congress*

On behalf of the Australian Section, Miss Joy Mills had extended an invitation to hold the next World Congress in Sydney in the year 2000, as recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting held in Brasilia in July 1993. It was pointed out that the Olympic Games to be held in Sydney that year will make travel and accommodation difficult. Miss Mills said suitable dates will be proposed keeping this in view.

##### (f) *Eastern Europe*

Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu gave a survey of the work in that area. The Presidential Representative in Czechoslovakia had been unable to fulfil his function and was not active in the work. The President said that she would withdraw his appointment. Contact has not been made so far with suitable persons to start the work in Poland. Mr Laszlo Reicher, Presidential Representative in Hungary is establishing some contacts in Rumania. Seminars were held in Magnitogorsk and Moscow, with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman

of the European Federation as directors. In Russia, there are groups unable to co-operate with each other. So far, no trustworthy neutral person to represent the TS there has been found and appointed to administer affairs. Efforts are on to find a solution. Those who have applied for membership have not paid dues, which will make it impossible to decide in the future who is in good standing. Arrangements for dues collections must be made. It was suggested that efforts should be made to find a Russian-speaking member to live in Russia for some time to build up the work. Leaflets in Russian are to be prepared for distribution, and contacts, seminars, etc. should continue.

(g) *South-East Asia*

Dr C. V. Agarwal, Presidential Representative for South-East Asia, reported that there is a lack of communication and of records in this area. He is trying to correspond and regularize the procedures and records. He had visited Japan and Hong Kong where the situation is not satisfactory. No contact could be made with the Lodge in Korea.

(h) *Vietnam*

Prof. C. T. Phan, General Secretary for France, reported that efforts are being made to revive the work in Vietnam and recover the TS property.

(i) *Federations*

Miss Joy Mills proposed that Federations comprising National Societies in contiguous areas should figure in the Society's Rules and Regulations. This is to be examined.

(j) *Victoria Lodge, Canada*

The Lodge has applied for direct affiliation to Adyar. The Council recommended granting such affiliation for one year, but not longer as it is not desirable to have two different bodies in the same country.

(k) *Outlines of Theosophical Education*

Mr Vicente Hao Chin Jr., General Secretary for the Philippines, had proposed that material on theosophical education should be prepared to be used as guidelines all over the world. The Council was of the view that Mr Hao Chin himself should be requested to put together the material available.

(l) *The Theosophist*

The President invited suggestions to improve the magazine. Miss Ianthe Hoskins said that Adyar news should appear in *The Theosophist* so that members feel a link with the Headquarters. Interesting information about such activities as the Olcott School and the Welfare Centre should find a place. It was agreed that *The Theosophist* is a magazine for members, and through it members should keep in touch with what is happening around the theosophical

world. It must be made more alive by having variety in the items. Sections must be encouraged to include in their journals news about Adyar.

(m) *Centenary of Olcott Memorial School, 1994*

Miss Joy Mills suggested that Adyar send a brochure about the School to the Sections, so as to make this work for poor children, pioneered by Colonel Olcott, more widely known.

(n) *Publications*

There was a discussion arising out of the reactions of certain countries to language which appears to have a gender bias. It was the general view that the books of well-known writers of the past should not be changed without a clear indication that the new version is 'based on' the original writer's work. Introductory material should avoid violating current sensibilities.



